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ADVENTURES

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SIX PRINCESSES

OF

BABYLON,

IN THEIR TRAVELS TO THE TEMPLE OF VIRTUE:

AN

ALLEGORY.

By Lucy Pracock -

DEDICATED, BY PERMISSION,

To her ROYAL HIGHNESS the Princels MARY.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR, BY T. BENSLEY;

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AT A. PERFETIA'S, NO. 91, WIMPOLE-STREET,

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ADVENTURES

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EN THEIR TRAFFES TO THE TEMPLE OF VIKTUES

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To her Royal Highest the Princels MARY.

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS

And, for this permission, may the fountlies of

PRINCESS MARY.

the Royal House of Baunswick, to the Light

MADAM,

IT is with the utmost distidence I presume to beg your Royal Highness will graciously receive the humble performance I offer; which I have been encouraged to print by the softering hand of a kind Providence, which has also led it to your Royal Highness.

With all humility and gratitude permit me, Madam, to present the following little Allegory; fully sensible of its many impersections, and I fear unworthy the great honour it has received.

But the many illustribus and amiable virtues which now adorn the BRITISH THRONE, induce me to hope my little invention will not offend.

And, for this permission, may the fountain of all goodness ever fend down its choicest bleffings on the Royal House of BRUNSWICK, to the latest posterity. MADAM.

of I beg leave to subscribe myself,

A your Royal Highnels will , MADAM receive the

Your Royal Highness's

couraged to print by the foll Most obedient, GRATEFUL,

AND DEVOTED,

HUMBLE SERVANT.

LUCY PEACOCK.

university the great henour

Lambeth, June, 1785.

Tello Appodent

l gartisude permit me, Ma-

HE Author of the following pages begs leave to offer her grateful thanks to those Noble and generous Subscribers, who have honoured with their names her humble attempt at Allegory: By their ready attention to the kind sollicitations of some very worthy and respectable characters she has been enabled to venture on its publication; having, by their benevolent patronage, succeeded beyond her most sanguine expectations.

But her fears (from a consideral and her folia of

they amufe, might excite-indeclina.

She has now only to lament her want of ability for such an undertaking. A perusal of Spencer's Fairy Queen, wherein he has so beautifully described the Passions, sirst suggested to her mind the idea of personifying them in a more samiliar language, by painting the depravities of the human heart in such a manner, as might give an early impression

pression of Virtue to young minds; and, while they amuse, might excite reslection.

But her fears (from a conviction she feels of the many disadvantages she labours under) compel her to appeal to that candour, which will ever flow from worthy and generous minds towards the unfortunate.

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I'N T R O D U C T I O N. "

a otren conceals more valuable qualifies than the nichell em-N former times there reigned over Babylon a certain King and Queen, no less renowned for their mercy and justice, than for the vast dominions they possessed; but a war happening with a neighbouring Prince, the Babylonians were defeated, and the unfortunate Monarch obliged to fly for shelter to a foreign kingdom, whilst his amiable Queen took refuge, with her young family (confifting of fix lovely girls), in a lonely defert, that lay at a great distance from the city. One day, as the was fitting on the fea-shore, bathed in tears, and furrounded by her infant daughters, the was accosted by a decrepit old Woman, with a bundle of sticks under her arm: " What do you weep for, my good mistress? " (faid she) there are few evils but time and patience will "furmount." --- "Alas! (replied the Queen) my mifery is " past human relief, death is the only cure I can hope for; " and even then my poor children must be left to perish in " thefe direction.

"these deserts." "Don't despair, (returned the old woman) Heaven, like a good parent, corrects, but never abandons, its children: Behold, I am sent to be your protector." "I thank you, my good mother, for your kind
intentions, (said the Queen, smiling in the midst of her
grief) but, alas! thou can'st afford but a miserable protection." "You must not always judge from appearances, (again replied the hag) a plain and poor garment
often conceals more valuable qualities than the richest embroidery."

While the was speaking these last words, the Queen, to her inexpressible surprise, observed her face (which was before covered with the wrinkles of age and instrmity) brighten into the most beautiful aspect; the deformity of her person gradually decreased; and she now, instead of a decrepit hag, beheld a delicate young Lady, clothed in a white garment that flowed gracefully below her feet. "Fear no- thing, (faid this charming figure) I am the Fairy Benigna, whom your sufferings have drawn from Fairy-land: I have consulted the Oracle, which declares you doomed to the ternal exile, unless raised again to empire by the virtues of your children. Now, though it is out of my power entirely to over-rule Fate, I can, in some measure, counter- act it: Consent, therefore, to resign your children to my direction,

"direction, and patiently, with your husband, wait till the decrees of the Oracle are fulfilled. He is now in an island not far distant, whither, if you consent, my art shall inthantly transport you."

The Queen fell on her knees, in order to express her gratitude and refignation to the will of Benigna, who, touching her with a wand she held in ker hand, the Queen was immediately conveyed to her husband in the island which had been foretold. The Fairy then again waving her wand, an elegant gold chariot appeared, drawn by eight snow-white fwans, in which feating herfelf, with the fix Princeffes, they mounted the air, and, in a short time, losing fight of the deferts of Babylon, arrived at a spacious grotto.- It was fituated in the midst of a thick wood, and covered with a vine, whose purple clusters hung in full luxuriance round; whilst the harmony of birds, intermixed with the lulling founds of several water-falls, made it the most delightful of abodes. Here the Fairy caused her little company to alight, and, having refreshed them with a variety of fruits, conducted them to rest in the inward part of the grotto.

In this solitude the good Benigna made it her chief study to instruct them in the most useful and entertaining parts of learning, at the same time taking care to instill into their minds

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the love of virtue. Nor were diversions wanting to render their lives agreeable; they danced, fung, played on their lutes, and often, equipped with a bow and arrows, solaced themselves with the pleasures of the chace.

Thus some years elapsed in the greatest tranquility; they neither knew, nor wished for, other society than that of the benevolent Fairy, or for amusements superior to those their Grotto afforded: But, alas! the time was now drawing nigh, when they must bid adieu to these series enjoyments, and enter on a different scene of action.

One day the Fairy summoned them to her, and, bidding them give attention to what she was about to say, addressed them in the following words:—" You have now lived, my dear children, several years in this solitude, insensible of the great designs for which you were brought hither. But, before I proceed further on this subject, it is necessary to inform you, that the sate of your parents is so strongly connected and bound up in yours, that it is in your power, by your fortitude and virtue, to restore them again to empire and dominion, or, by your mutability and vice, to bring them with shame and misery to the grave.—Know then, that there are Six Wonders lie hid in nature, ordained as a trial of your constancy; they are attended with innumerable

- " merable perils, but when once poffeffed, and kept among
- " you, will render you more powerful than the most absolute
- unate enough to obtain it, immediately becomedanam !!
- "The first (said she, addressing the eldest Princess) is the

as an angel; and, though the frould live to the more

- " Distaff of Industry: an inestimable treasure! for, by apply-
- " ing one end of it to your right hand, you are instantly put
- " in possession of the thing you defire. This, (continued she)
- " Miranda, is allotted for your pursuit.
- "The next, (faid she) Florissa, must be your care: A
- " Bottle of Water, taken from the River of Good-nature, no
- " less valuable than the Distaff, being endowed with the
- " power of reconciling all differences; one draught uniting,
- " the most bitter enemies: And it has also this peculiar qua-
- " lity, that, when once attained, it can never be exhausted,
- " fince the more it is used, the more it continues to increase.
- The Spear of Truth is the next, and possesses even su-
- " perior virtues to the former, having the power of over-
- " coming all evil enchantment. Provided you keep the
- " Araight road, you need not fear any thing; but, should
- " you once turn afide, the dangers are so numerous as to
- " require the greatest experience and fortitude to furmount.
- " Be this your pursuit, Clementina.

« Remember.

with these words:

"The Mantle of Meekness is the fourth, which confers a degree of immortality on the possessor: She who is for"tunate enough to obtain it, immediately becomes beautiful
"as an angel, and, though she should live to the most ex"treme age, will still continue to wear the full bloom of
"youth on her countenance. May your best endeavours,
"my dear Bonnetta, not be wanting to acquire so great an
"ornament!

"The fifth (said she) is the Magnet of True Generosity:

"Whosoever is possessed of it, is endowed with the power

of transferring that pleasure they possess to another, which,

at the same time, increases it in themselves. This, my dear

Orinda, is the reward held up to you.

"Miranda, a silonted for your pitches

"Last of all comes the White Wand of Contentment, "(not less desirable than the rest) possessing the pleasing power of rendering the most disagreeable objects in nature agreeable. Let it be your care, Matilda, to return with this invaluable treasure!"

The Fairy then embraced them, and, after giving them fome necessary directions concerning the roads they were to take, and advice for their future conduct, dismissed them with these words:

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"Remember, my children, that on the success of this
journey depends the happiness or misery of your lives; if
you succeed, peace and prosperity attend you; but, should
you fail, once more remember, that you lose my protection
for ever, and bring shame and infamy on those who gave
you birth."

The Princesses then departed, promising to keep the words of the good Benigna in their minds; and, after embracing each other, pursued their way, each taking the road prescribed by the Fairy.

How they fucceeded, and what adventures they met with, will be the subject of the ensuing pages.

Remember, my children, that on the faccels of this or journey depends the bappinels or mifery of your lives; if you facceed, peace and profperity attend you; but, fhould a you fail, once more remember, that you lake my protection for over, and bring flame and infanty on those who gave you birth."

The Princesses then departed, promiting to keep the words of the good Benigna in their minds; and, aster embracing each other, purfixed their way, each othing the road presentenbed by the Bairy.

How they freeepled, and what adventures they met with will be the hibject of the criticing pager.

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One evening as the was indulging their molenthaly re-

PRINCESS MIRANDA.

THIS Princess, who set out in search of the wonderful Distaff of Industry, pursued her way for some time unmolested; when, on a sudden, she heard a voice, not far distant, in a peremptory tone commanding her to stop.—But, on turning round, imagine her horror, when she perceived a monstrous Giant within a sew paces of her. She had neither time or inclination to contemplate his figure; for, seizing her by the arm, he led her in triumph to a large Castle, where he delivered her to the care of an old Woman, equal in stature with himself. The Giantess, put-ting on her spectacles, eyed Miranda attentively; and then,

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having

and to her.

having carried her to a deep dungeon, left her, and went to fee after her household affairs.

Here the poor Princess wept and prayed night and day, expecting to be devoured by the Giant and his companions.— A hard situation for her, who had been used to every indulgence in the grotto of the good Benigna, whose justice she now began to arraign, for dooming her to an enterprise which, at the very first onset, appeared likely to prove so fatal to her.

One evening, as she was indulging these melancholy reflections, happening to cast her eyes downwards, she, from a light which gleamed through a crevice, discerned a flat white stone, with a brass ring fixed in the center; and, taking hold of it, sound the stone loose; then, pulling with all her strength, she with much difficulty raised it, and discovered underneath it a slight of stone steps: This animated her with a dawn of hope: She slattered herself they might lead to some secret way from the Castle, and accordingly descended with great alacrity. Having continued her way through a long dark passage, she at last perceived day-light, though at a great distance; but, making all possible speed, to her inexpressible joy, soon sound herself at the sea-side.—She stopped a moment to recover breath, and again ran, with all the swiftness she was mistress of, thinking to escape

knowing, that if once the Giant, whose name was Impatience, should pursue her, there was but little chance of preserving herself a second time.

steer the fatigue you have undergone; let me, therefore,

She had not proceeded far, full of these reslections, before she heard the voice of her dreadful enemy behind her. This added double speed to her slight; and she was just sheltered in a little house, that stood by the way-side, as the Giant overtook her. Now it is necessary to acquaint the reader, that the house belonged to an old Fairy, called Delay. This the Giant very well knew, and was sensible, when he saw the Princess enter there, he could have nothing further to do with her; he therefore immediately departed, in pursuit of some other prey.

As for poor Miranda, she threw herself on a chair, half dead with the fright, scarce believing but that she was already in the arms of the dreadful Giant, till the Fairy, with many kind speeches, convinced her that, while she was in her jurisdiction, she was entirely beyond his reach; and persuaded her to amuse herself in the gardens which surrounded her habitation. At first Miranda excused herself, saying that she was bound on a particular expedition—the search after the Distaff of Industry: "Well, (said the Fairy) I am determined

Fairy again confeading her. The was proceeding to unders

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Heelt "

you shall stay with me to-night:"—To which Miranda consenting, they went into the garden.

"You must certainly (said the Fairy) be exceedingly weary after the satigue you have undergone; let me, therefore, persuade you to resresh yourself, by bathing in the stream that bounds my garden; it is called the River of Ease, and is endowed with the most invigorating quality." Miranda was preparing to sollow the advice of her companion, when the heard a soft voice, resembling that of Benigna, repeat these words:

- " Virtue, if you mean to fave, " (10) mill on
- Bathe not in the treach'rous wave."

This staggered her resolution, and she hesitated; but, the Fairy again entreating her, she was proceeding to undress herself, when she distinctly heard the following words:

well here he thoughor immediately di

- Let not gilded words allure, dail od dier bash
- Vice's charms can ne'er endure; lo emis ab ni
- Should you once the fream invade, and bail
- Farewell-loft, deluded maid." of moisible

The Princess now felt a superior spirit animate her soul; and she turned round, attempting to sly; but Delay caught hold of her, saying "Consent to abide with me, and you

her to aguid health in the gardens which forwanded ner

" shall enjoy all the pleasures it is in my power so plentifully " to bestow. - I am the Fairy Delay; and, to convince you " of the superiority of my art, behold a proof of it." She then flruck herfelf with a wand, and Miranda inflantly beheld her changed into a Dormouse,-from a Dormouse to a Dromedary, - and, laftly, from a Dromedary to her own shape again. This, so far from inducing the Princess to say, only ferved to increase her horror and disgust; which the Fairy perceiving, when the found no entreaties would prevail, "Wretch (faid she) receive the punishment due to your in-" gratitude." And, fprinkling her with fome water from the Lake of Sloth, which was before by her falfely called the River of Ease, the Princess instantly felt herfelf transfixed to the place where she stood: her joints stiffened; her blood stagnated; and she now retained no other symptom of a living being, than the power of reflection, which the wicked Fairy had still left to augment her misery; otherwise, she had by her art transformed her to a Statue. Statue.

In this fituation the poor Princess remained many months; when one day a young Prince, who resided on the opposite side of the lake, riding that way, was so enamoured with the beauty of this Statue, that he became deeply in love with it; and secretly sighed, till at length he fell dangerously sick.—

The King and Queen, his parents, who doated on him to excess,

excess, with much importunity, discovered the true cause of his malady; which done, they caused it to be proclaimed through the city, that any one who could produce a Damsel equal in beauty to the Statue, should be honoured with the highest post in the kingdom; and that the Damsel, how low and mean soever her condition, should immediately be married to the Prince, if he approved of her. This proclamation was no sooner issued, than the most beauteous virgins, from all parts, were assembled, and arranged before the Prince; but not any of them appeared, in his eye, comparable to the charming Statue.

The King and Queen, willing to try every expedient to preferve their son, summoned a council of Fairies; but they agreed with one consent, that the Statue was inchanted in the garden of Delay, and that, unless it could be animated, no relief could be administered to the fick Prince. This was almost impossible; it being against the laws of Fairy-land, for one Fairy to enter the territories of another, and destroy an inchantment performed in her jurisdiction.

the Lake of Sloth, which was before by her

Thus all hope feemed vain, and the royal pair were left in the deepest forrow; but relief was not so far off as they imagined. There was a little deaf and dumb Dwarf, named Diligence, who had been bred for some years in the palace,

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when one day a young Prince, who resided on the opposite

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the particular favourite of the Prince. This Dwarf no fooner understood that the Statue was inchanted by the Fairy Delay, than he made figns for pen, ink and paper, by which he let the King and Queen know, that they had no further occasion for uneafiness; and, without staying to explain any thing, instantly repaired to the Lake of Sloth.

be Prince to accoun

At first he was somewhat embarrassed, not knowing in what manner to cross it; but presently recollecting himself, he pulled up a bundle of rushes that grew by the side, and in a few hours, with great ingenuity, formed a boat large enough to hold two people, which quickly landed him on that side where the beautiful Statue stood. He had no sooner touched it, than, by virtue of a gift formerly bestowed on him, the charm broke; and the Princess sinding herself once more restored to speech and motion, overjoyed, followed her conductor; who, handing her into his boat, soon introduced her to the King and Queen.

They scarce knew which to carefs most, Miranda or the Dwarf; and the Prince also, though extremely weak and low, raised himself to testify his joy on their arrival. From that day the Prince began to recover, and in a short time was able to walk about the palace, and enjoy the company of his beloved Miranda; but she absolutely resused to listen to any addresses,

withstanding the amiable manners of the Prince, added to the obligation she was under to his family, had very much won her affection. She therefore in a few days set forward, attended by the little deaf and dumb Dwarf, lest she should again stand in need of his assistance; after promising to return there, and suffer the Prince to accompany her to Benigna, in order to gain her consent to their union.

marinar to cross it; but prefently recollecting himfelf, he pulled

The Princess had not walked far with her little companion, when they came to a coftly building, which feemed to belong to some person of distinction; but it surprised her to observe, that although the Castle looked loaded with finery, the gardens and grounds which furrounded it, appeared totally uncultivated and wild. However she had an inclination to go in and rest herfelf, and was pushing open a little gate for that purpose, when the Dwarf pulled her by the sleeve, and made signs that the should not enter; but Miranda gave little attention to him, and feeing feveral young men and women repofing themselves on the grafs, was attempting to enter a fecond time; when Diligence, taking her by the hand, led her, with much reluctance, to the front of the Castle, and pointed to a large arch, on which was written in capital letters, The Castle of Idleness. Through the arch was a long avenue, at the end of which the Princess descried a little, low, mean building, but ill suited to the splendor that sparkled on the other parts; over the door was written, likewise in capitals, The House of Ignorance.

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Notwithstanding this, the Princess selt a strong desire to enter, being much satigued with her journey; and stood debating whether she should follow her own inclination, or the advice of her friend the Dwarf; when she was accossed by a cheerful young Female, who told her she could introduce her to the Lady of the Mansson, who was a very powerful Fairy, and had always apartments ready to accommodate weary travellers. Miranda did not possess resolution to withstand this kind offer, and followed her conductress into the Castle; leaving poor Diligence in the utmost concern for her imprudence, he being too wise to attend her.

Idleness, one of the most wicked Fairies who presided in that part of the country, was reclined on a downy sofa, and surrounded by a numerous train of attendants. Some of them were employed in fanning her; others in dancing, singing, or relating some entertaining tale to pass away her hours. She received the Princess very cordially, and introduced her to the acquaintance of her son Ignorance, who resided in the building beforementioned. He appeared not very young; his person awkward, and manner ungraceful:

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He approached the Princess with a yellow wand in his hand, and, with the ease of a familiar friend, gave her a gentle rap on her head. To this uncouth salute, the Princess gave little attention; but, conversing generally with the company here, she found such an insipidity in their conversation, that her soul thirsted for a repetition of those lessons of wisdom she had heard from the good Benigna; and, as a fort of weariness had been the chief cause of her accepting the invitation, she determined to shorten her visit.

a the stade of the Monte, who was a stay powerful Paness

Accordingly she arose with the early dawn: The sun was just mounting the bright clouds of the east, and the little birds chanting their early congratulations to the new day, when Miranda stole gently down stairs, to pursue her journey; but, thinking it a mark of rudeness to leave no respectful notice to the Lady of the House, she searched the apartments usually occupied by the domestics, but found no one to receive her message; and, as the business she was going on was inconsistent with waste of time, she opened the door and departed.

She had walked but a few paces before she was accosted by a parcel of ragged people, with brooms and baskets at their sides, who solicited her charity, telling her they were going to the Castle of Idleness, to sweep up the pantries and clean

finging, or relating tome entertaining tale to pull away her

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clean the shuffle-boards. The Princess heard them with a fmile, and, giving a small fum amongst them, passed on; but she had no sooner got into the high road, than a number of paffengers gathered round her, crying, " The beaft, the " beaft!" and, gazing on her with evident marks of furprife and contempt, fome laughed, others faluted her with stones and dirt, and fome few shrugged up their shoulders, in pity of her miserable condition. Astonished and terrified at this unaccountable treatment, she attempted to speak, and demand the cause of it; but she no sooner opened her lips, than immoderate bursts of laughter echoed universally from side to fide, which still added to her embarrassment.

In this mortifying diffress she continued, till, to her no small comfort, she perceived her old friend the Dwarf. He was accompanied by a beautiful young Fairy, who, advancing to the Princess, took her by the hand, and, having led her from the crowd, prefented her with a looking glass, bidding her view herfelf; but judge the emotions that crowded on the foul of Miranda, when she discovered her head and face exactly to resemble that of an Ass. She turned round, attempting to express her grief and astonishment; but, to complete her confusion, she now found she was incapable of articulating any founds but those of the animal she reprefented, behisten where to got one to misterial eldentil sate

B 2 Defpair

Despair gained possession of her breast, and she was earnestly wishing an end to her existence, when the Fairy thus addressed her: "You now see (said she) to what dangers "you have exposed yourself, by neglecting the advice of your friend the Dwarf. It is Ignorance, whose powerful wand has thus transformed you; nor can any, except "Diligence and myself, named Perseverance, surmount the enchantment. Happy are you to possess such friends; otherwise, the form you now wear would pursue you to the latest hour of mortality."

She then told her the glass, in which she discovered her deformity, was the Mirror of Self-conviction; and, presenting a wand she held in her hand to Diligence, made signs that the should touch the Princess with it, which he had no sooner done, than the enchantment vanished, and she was restored to her natural form and understanding. After this the Fairy, bidding her be more careful for the future, left her to continue her journey, accompanied by her little deaf and dumb Friend.

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Miranda now no longer refused to follow the careful Dwarf; who, taking a road directly opposite to that where the Castle of Idleness stood, presently arrived at the foot of the Durable Mountain, at the top of which, guarded by an active, wise Magician, lay the wonderful Distaff.

face exactly to retemble the of an Ah. She aread round,

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The Princess, overjoyed to have arrived, as the fancied, so nigh her journey's end, began to ascend with great vigour; but soon found it no easy matter, the Mountain being extremely rugged, and, in many parts, almost perpendicular. After labouring there some time, and perceiving she gained little ground, she sat down to rest; and in the mean while to consider, whether the Distast was, in reality, worth the trouble that seemed to attend the obtaining it. "What (said "she to herself) have I to do with it? If I return to the Prince, he will receive me with open arms; and I shall, "doubtless, become Queen over that great city. Of what "use then will the Distast be to me; since I shall have it in my power to command every thing I can defire?"

With these thoughts she was just rising to return, when it occurred to her to take one thought on the other side of the question. "I shall for ever lose the protection of my "dear Benigna, (said she) that is beyond doubt; and the "Prince, likewise, seeing me so sickle in the enterprise I "have undertaken, may despise and abandon me: Her "words will then indeed be fulfilled,—I shall bring shame and infamy—."

The Magleian then glanced a timle of com-

She was going on with these reslections, when Diligence, who had all this time been extremely distatisfied at her loitering,

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tering, now became quite outrageous; and, taking hold of her arm, partly by force and partly by looks of entreaty, got her a confiderable way up the Mountain; and at length, after much labour and perplexity, led her to the fummit, where she demanded the Distaff.

inthe ground, the for down to real; and in the mean while

The watchful Magician looked excessively sullen and morose, till he perceived her in company with Diligence, of whom he had persect knowledge, when his countenance brightened, and, after a short pause, said, "I perceive the "good Benigna has, in part, unfolded to you the powers of the wonderful Distass of Industry. I present you with "it; be you its protectress, and it will amply repay your "attention." The Magician then glanced a smile of complacency on Diligence, and disappeared.

The first trial the Princess made of her new prize, was for the use of her good friend the Dwarf, without whose affistance it would have been impossible to have obtained it; accordingly, applying it to the palm of her right hand, and at the same time wishing that he might be endowed with speech and hearing, the Dwarf felt his ears opened, and his tongue capable of expressing his gratitude to Miranda; who again applying it to her hand, they found themselves at the foot of the Mountain, where a chariot waited, ready

in occurred to her to take one in

to convey them back to the Palace. Whilst they were on their way, the Princess, in order to pass the time agreeably, requested that Diligence would relate the history of his life; who, never so happy as when he could oblige, immediately began in the following words.

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The DEAF and DUMB DWARF.

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"YOU will doubtless be furprised, Madam, (said the little Dwarf, smiling) to hear that, notwithstanding my diminutive fize, my parents were Giants; yet it is no more strange than true. I was their only offspring, though I enjoyed no great share in their affections; owing, most probably, to the smallness of my stature, which I imagine they considered would unsit me for losty atchievements; not reflecting, that the Small Link is a part of the Large Chain. However it was, they treated me as if a disgrace to their family; used me to the most menial offices, fuch as cutting of faggots, cooking their victuals, bucking their linen, &c. beating me unmercifully on committing the least fault.

"It happened one day that I was carrying a load of meat bigger than myself, when a large eagle, allured by the smell, darted down, and, seizing me and the meat in her talons, slew with me and my load to her nest, at the top of a very high rock, and then took another slight in quest of more prey.

"I was dreadfully frightened at my fituation; thinking,
"not without reason, that the old eagles, finding me an
"incumbrance, would either dash my brains out against the
rocks, or peck me to pieces for food for their young.
But I had little time for lamentation; it was my business,
if possible, to extricate myself from the danger that
threatened me. Accordingly I set about surveying the
rock, in order to descend; but that was an utter impossibility, one side hanging over the sea, and the other being
an exact perpendicular.

"The following stratagem therefore, although attended with great hazard, alone seemed to promise the least probability of escaping. I had, by good fortune, in my pocket a large knife, which my parents had given me to cut wood in the forest. Armed with this, I set myfelf in a posture of defence, and waited in the nest till the return of the old eagle, who had no sooner alighted,
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" probably, to the fmallness of any flattre, which I ima-

"than, seizing her by the throat with all the strength I posselfed, I, at one leap, sprang on her back; and, notwithstanding her endeavours to shake me off, still kept my
station. The creature, enraged at finding her efforts vain,
rose in the air, and attempted to dash me in pieces, by
seletting me fall; but I continued unhurt, never quitting my
shold till she settled on the top of a tree, when with one
shand I run my knife into her heart, and with the other
seletted hold on one of the branches, to prevent my fall
selected with her.

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"My enemy was no fooner dead, than I descended from the tree, and had the satisfaction of finding myself once more on stat ground, though, as I conjectured, at a considerable distance from home.—This gave me little uneafiness, as I determined never to return to my parents, whose unkind treatment made me prefer any situation, rather than their society.

"I wandered about some time, hoping to discover some place where I might take up my abode, when I came to a large Cave. I was just entering, when I was stopped by a deep sigh, which proceeded from the mouth of it; and, listening a few minutes, heard a soft voice repeat these words:—" Wretch that I am! What does my power

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" avail, but for the wicked to exult over?"—This sentence "ended, I went into the Cavern; but how was I assonished to find that the words I had just heard proceeded from the mouth of a milk-white Doe, chained to the side of a "large Rock, hard as adamant.

eleuing me fall; but I continued uniturt, never quirting my

"She told me she was enchanted; but, from something she observed in my countenance, she was fully persuaded the Fates had decreed me to be her deliverer, and entreated me to release her; which, she said, could only be effected by removing the Rock. This was a work of such magnitude, that it appeared far beyond my natural strength to engage in; till the poor Doe's tears and entreaties determined me to contrive some means to assist her: And recollecting how serviceable my wood-knife had been in destroying the eagle, and affording me the means of a fafe retreat from the dangerous precipice, I flattered myself, by it's affistance, I should be able to remove the en-

[&]quot;My breast glowed with re-animated power, from the de"fire I felt to relieve the beautiful Captive. I immediately
"proceeded, with the point of my knife, to peck into the
"Crevices of the Rock, and, by degrees, made a considerable
"aperture; presently a small piece of it fell into my hand,
"which

which I used as a hammer; when, after sabouring with all my strength for some time, a large spark of Fire burst from the Rock. I started back, and instantly heard a most tremendous groan. Listening with assonishment, I heard a voice repeat—" Alas! alas! The Castle of Idleness will be destroyed: A Spark of Industry has escaped our vigilance, and will discover the Distaff."—The meaning of these words I did not then understand, but was debating in my own mind whether to pursue my strokes, when the Rock instantly disappeared, and, instead of a white Doe, a lovely young Fairy, with a most expressive countenance, stood before me; the same who released you from the enchantment of Ignorance.

"She was proceeding to thank me for breaking the charm, when an old Fairy rushed from behind us; who, darting a look of fury and indignation at me;—" From henceforth, (said she) for your ill-placed curiosity, be deaf and dumb."—" No; (replied the young Fairy, interrupting her) though I cannot destroy your evil charm, I will, in part, counteract it. Be deaf and dumb (said she, striking me with her wand) till the Distaff of Industry be brought from the Durable Mountain."—After she had pronounced these words, the wicked Fairy, overcome with rage and disappointment, vanished.

sart, and become fubject to the inconveniences and diffic

Whilst I was in company with the good Fairy, the evil " charm, by which I was rendered deaf and dumb, did " not take effect; and she spoke to me, as nearly as I can " remember, in the following words:-" I am (faid she) " the Fairy Perseverance, renowned for the superiority of " my skill in good deeds; that old Fairy has always been " my inveterate enemy. Her name is Delay; one of the " oldest of our Race: Whatever good I do, she is sure, if " possible, to destroy; constantly laying in wait for all " opportunities to wreak her malice on me, and it is not " long fince a circumstance happened that gave full scope " to it. There is a law subsisting in Fairy-land, by which " we are all obliged, one day in the year, to lay down our " art, and become subject to the inconveniences and disasters " of mortality. A few days ago it happened to be my " turn, and I was walking, not far from this place, entirely " divefted of all Power, when Delay met me, who, over-" joyed at finding me incapable of withstanding her Art, " amply fatisfied her Malice, by confining me to the Rock " in the form of a Doe; in which fituation I remained, till, " by your affiftance, I regained my former condition. I " am grieved I cannot destroy the charm imposed on you " by Delay, and would fain, in some measure, recompense " the service you have done me: Chuse, therefore, any "Gift it is permitted me to bestow, and I will confer it on " you."

wyou."—Here the charming Fairy ended, and waited my

dicomposed vinanda, the being forthal left he thouse oute

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"I felt a just indignation against the wicked Delay, and fecretly wished to be revenged for the punishment she had inflicted on me. I therefore defired Perseverance to endow me with the power of over-ruling her enchantments, who granted my request, and disappeared; when I instantly became deaf and dumb, but possessed of the Gift I demanded.

young l'emille, who lest incredited the Princell to

"I took up my abode in a Wood, not far distant from the Dwelling of Delay, where I continually released those who were held by her enchantment; till one day the Prince Osymandyas, as he rode from hunting, discovered and carried me to the Palace. His amiable manners so attached me to him, that I continued there till sent to accompany you in pursuit of the Distaff."

The Dwarf finished his entertaining narrative as they were passing the Castle of Idleness. "Now, Madam, (said he) "this truly valuable Distass shall discover the instability of those gratifications, which are encouraged by the detestable "enchantment of Idleness." Saying this, he sprang from the Carriage, and taking the Princess by the hand, entered the Castle.

" Conduct into incretore, to fome place of feeming where

Castle. The Fairy, as usual, was surrounded by company, her son Ignorance standing by her; whose presence rather discomposed Miranda, she being searful less he should again thonour her with those marks of distinction, from which Diligence and his friend Perseverance had so lately freed her; but the Dwarf had no sooner applied the Distass to his hand, than Idleness and Ignorance, (who were now entirely distanted of their power) together with their attendants, vanished; and the Castle was instantly shivered to atoms.

The young Female, who first introduced the Princess to the Castle, only remained, and on whom an astonishing transformation took place; for she no longer appeared young and beautiful, but discovered herself to be no other than the old Fairy Delay.—" Hold, inhuman monster, (said she to to the Dwarf) nor strive, by that destructive Distass to annihilate thy mother. The time is come that thou must be fully acquainted with the circumstances of thy birth. Conduct me, therefore, to some place of security, where in may at leisure unfold that secret, Fate will no longer permit me to conceal."—These mysterious words were no some pronounced, than Diligence, who till now stood fixed to the place with surprise, accompanied by the Princess, led Delay to a little copse hard by, where, being seated, she began in the following manner.

Nymph, whole beauty to streaded him, that he became

The HISTORY of the FAIRY DELAY.

Yet, inciedable as to you it may feem, he was

"graffignately in love with Let ; but, doubtlefs, it will rith

"BEFORE I enter on those particulars, which immediately relate to your birth, I shall call to mind some events,
which, although at first they may appear trivial, are nevertheless of no small consequence in the narrative I am going to relate. Know then, that I am the Daughter of Idleness, whose Power you have recently destroyed. Her Castle
was formerly a Palace, and occupied by a mighty Monarch, the glory of whose same was blazoned to the most
distant parts; but what added to his Greatness was, that he
owned that very Distass which the Princess Miranda is
now in possession of. He acquired it through the affistance of a wise Magician, the instructor of his youth,
whose name was Prudence; who, with infinite labour discovered and brought it from a certain enchanted Temple.

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"Possessed of that treasure, the King soon became one of the most powerful Monarchs; his Dominions extended, and his People were happy: But this Glory very shortly gave place to a scene of perplexity and missortune. It happened one day, as he was riding out, that he discovered a young "Nymph,

" Accordingly, feeing him alone, and signarated from

"Nymph, whose beauty so attracted him, that he became passionately in love with her; but, doubtless, it will raise your admiration, when I tell you it was Idleness, whose personal charms made this sudden impression on the King: "Yet, incredible as to you it may seem, he was so enamoured, that he prevailed with her to be his Queen.

" descly relate to your birth, I shall call to mind some events,

"Now perhaps it may appear strange, that Idleness, being a l'airy, should so readily agree to a union with Mortality; this, probably, might not have happened, had she
not had deep designs to accomplish. You must know,
that many years before, the Oracle had declared, that,
on a certain day, the Distaff of Industry should put an end
to her Power.—It was, therefore, no sooner brought from
the Temple, and in possession of the King, than her
breast was filled with anxiety; she considered her power
as every instant in danger of destruction, and determined
to leave no stratagem untried to get the Distaff from him.

"Accordingly, feeing him alone, and separated from his
faithful monitor Prudence, she thought no opportunity
could be more convenient to put her design in execution.

To this end, assuming an artissical beauty, she threw her
fels in his way, and had the satisfaction to find that her
arts were not unsuccessful. At first she put an on air of
disdain;

"disdain; till, perceiving she had sufficiently captivated the de"luded Monarch, she assured him, that there was only one
"way by which she could ever be prevailed with to consent to
"so uncommon an union; this was, by his forgoing all claim
to the Distaff of Industry.

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"The King at first objected to the proposal; representing to her, that the welfare of his People depended on his keeping it in his possession; but finding she would listen to no other terms, the infatuated mortal, overcome by the violence of his passion, consented; and resigned the Distass to Idleness, who instantly funk it in the Lake of Sloth, by which they were standing: she then secured it with a number of charms, and returned to the habitation of her new Lord, who, enraptured with his Bride, entirely submitted to her the direction of the Empire, which she did not fail to render sensible of her power,—Famine, Pestilence, and Disease, continually, by her instuence, infesting the provinces.

"During this time, my Brother Ignorance and Myself were born; but my Father soon after died, leaving the Kingdom to the joint government of my Mother, Brother, and Myself. "We reigned unmolested some years; when a mighty Giant, named Impatience, commenced a bloody war against us, which continued long without success on either side; for the

;

"Giant being descended from a race of Enchanters, the art of my Mother had no power to subdue him; therefore arms alone could decide the difference: Thus War and Desolation threatened both parties; each being determined never to yield. The Troops of Impatience, indeed, frequently destroyed those of my Mother Idleness; but then they generally fell into the snares prepared by the armies over which I presided.

2 Landrenson Lal month discerner

"Things were in this fituation, when the People petitioned that the Magician Prudence, who had fled from the Palace on the first entrance of Idleness, my Mother, might be admitted as a Mediator. This was agreed to, and the Macigician sent for, who proposed that a Peace should be concluded; and cemented by a marriage between Myself and Impatience. This proposal was at first by no means relished; for the natural aversion we retained to each other was so great, that it was feared fatal consequences might be produced from such an union: But, in order to obviate this objection, the Magician set to work, and framed an enchanted Cord, of such a peculiar texture, that, whilst it remained unbroken, no mischief could ensu; it was called the Gol-

lapers is wellfook! a feore arms of completed lapers a

" In a little time, feeing no other remedy, we followed the " advice of Prudence; and, by the affiftance of the enchanted " Cord, lived many years in domestic cordiality; in which " time You was born, whom we mutually agreed to call Dili-" gence: But the year after a fudden change took place; for " one day Impatience, in a fit of choler, feized the Golden " Cord, on which alone our agreement depended, and broke " it afunder. The instant it was severed, our old animosity " returned, if possible, more violent than before; and extended " even to You, our common offspring, whom we mutually " determined to abandon and disown. We, therefore, immedi-" ately parted, fully determined to live entire strangers to, " nor ever more interfere in, each other's government. " left You in a forest, to the mercy of the first traveller who " should pass; and, fortunately for you, you were taken up " and adopted by a Giant and Giantels, of the race of your " Father. For my part, I repaired to the Lake of Sloth, at " the fide of which I took up my abode; and exercised the power of Enchantment I inherited from my Mother, of " which the Princess Miranda felt a severe proof.

[&]quot;But whilst I was thus occupied, Prudence, the Magician, "was by no means unemployed; his imagination ran wholly on recovering the Distaff of Industry from the Lake of Sloth." His efforts had hitherto proved unsuccessful; the charms

" with which my Mother had fecured it being too ftrong " eafily to be overruled: But he had now discovered, that it " could never be raifed, unless Diligence, the Son of Impa-"tience, could be found; as he inherited from his Father, " fome of those Powers of Exertion needful to so arduous an " undertaking; but here was another difficulty, as it was un-" certain to what part of the globe we had configned you; " but at length, by his Art, he learnt this likewife; and com-" ing to the Brink by your affiftance, though at that time too " young to be fensible of its value, drew it from the Lake. "I burned with indignation at this act of violence; and should " certainly have amply revenged myself on You, had you not " been protected by the Magician,—who, having conducted you " back to the forest, from whence he brought you, fled with " the Distaff to the top of the Durable Mountain, where he " preferved it for that person whom the Fates should endow " with fufficient constancy to obtain it.

"Thus, compelled by Fate, I have related that part of your history yet unknown, which, otherwise, the implacable hatred I still bear you, would never have suffered me to reveal.

" was by no means unetaployed; his integration tan wholly

" The efforts had buttern proved interesting the charge

e the fide of which I nook up my abode; and exacted the

"These words were scarce ended, when Delay disapwe peared, fo great was her aversion to Diligence and the " Diftaff.

Our two travellers then again fet forward, contemplating on the strange events the Fairy had unfolded; and presently " arrived at the Palace, -where we will leave the Prince and " his royal Parents to welcome them, and fee what befel the " next Princess in her journey to the River of Good-nature."

A feet all to the throat it may be a

HE Princets Floriffa possessed manyogood qualides; the was generous, fincere, and affectionate, to Bonic say yet there was a certain haughtinefs in her manners, garricularly to inferiors, which rendered herefor less amiable than her elder fifter: She could not bear the least centradiction; and, unless things went exactly agreeable to her indirection. would be frequently follow and commune out of bluewers whole days constituted it was for this reside that the I signalloned her the journey, well knowing that one draight from the River of God-nature would correct those faults which erroceeded rather from a bad temper, than a had heart.

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The first object that prefented itself to her, after the bad departed from the Grotto of Benigna, was a poor Boy. Inting e Thefe words were ware chied, when Delay differ-

e peared, to great was her avertion to Diligence and the

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on the frange events the Fairy had unfolded; and prefently

" his royal Parants to welcome thom, and fee what befor the

" arrived or the Palace, - " hy Ty o ill leave the Prince and

PRINCESS FLORISSA.

THE Princess Florista possessed many good qualities; she was generous, sincere, and affectionate, to Benigna; yet there was a certain haughtiness in her manners, particularly to inferiors, which rendered her far less amiable than her elder sister: She could not bear the least contradiction; and, unless things went exactly agreeable to her inclination, would be frequently sullen, and continue out of humour whole days together. It was for this reason that the Fairy allotted her the journey, well knowing that one draught from the River of Good-nature would correct those faults which proceeded rather from a bad temper, than a bad heart.

The first object that presented itself to her, after she had departed from the Grotto of Benigna, was a poor Boy, sitting

by the way-fide, crying most piteously; "For the love of "goodness, Madam," said he, "bestow a trifle to prevent "me from starving;" "You had better," replied the Princess, "go to work, than trouble and interrupt people as they "pass;"—"Alas!" returned the Boy, "I can get nothing to do; and am so weak for want of food, that I can scarce "stand." "I don't believe one word that you say," again replied Florissa; "but let me be tormented by you no longer:" Then, putting her hand into a little filk purse, she took from thence some pieces of silver, which, with some small cakes her pocket afforded, she threw to him; but in such an ungracious manner, as entirely to destroy the obligation she was bestowing.

Not long after this event, as she was passing by a poor, decrepit, ancient Woman, supported by two crutches, (one of which breaking she fell to the ground); "My pretty Maiden," faid she, "be so kind as to help me up again."—"Your "pretty Maiden!" replied the Princess, "I should not think "of being treated with such insolent freedom, by such an in-"digent person as you are; therefore lay till some other per-"son comes to affist you."—Saying this, she was continuing her journey, when the old Woman rose: "You shall repent your ill-nature;" said she, "I was a witness to your behaviour to the distressed Boy, and contrived this artistice for

"one more trial. Know that I am Ill-fame, the Fairy or"dained to punish those who, by their rude conduct, give
"free scope to my power.—"Henceforth," said she, striking
her with a black Wand, "your Form shall be savage as your
"manners:" Which words were scarce uttered, when the
Princess, instead of a beautiful young Lady, became transformed to a large, shaggy, black Bear:—"Continue in that
"form," said the Fairy, "best suited to your disposition, till
"the River of Good-nature shall restore you again to your for"mer state." Then disappearing, she left the Princess leisure
to repent of her folly.

close manner, as caurely to delitry the obligation the was

But she at present was not in a state for reslection; giving vent to the first transports of her rage, by the most horrid howlings that could be imagined;—in the midst of which, (as if Fate seemed determined to humble her) an Arrow was sent from behind a clump of trees, that gave her a most dreadful wound in her side; the anguish of which, together with her former misfortune, added fresh transports to her rage: Sometimes she rolled on the ground; at others tore her sless, and endeavoured to put an end to her existence; till, at last, worn out with fatigue, she sunk down quite spent, lamenting her unhappy fate; never once considering it was her own bad conduct that occasioned her misfortune. She had not lain long in this situation, before she fancied that the heat of the

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fun, (which was now at its greatest power) seemed to augment the anguish of her wound; and, looking round, she spied, not far from her, a tree, whose branches overshadowed a large part of the road: To this shade, with much difficulty, she made shift to crawl; and in a little time, notwithanding the agony of her body and mind, fell into a prosound sleep.

She looked up and technic to Alas!" fall the to her

Now this tree was planted by a Fairy, who many years before refided in that part of the country, for the convenience and relief of all travellers passing that way, who might stand in need of its affistance: By her it was endowed with many powerful gifts; though its chief virtue confifted in an Odoriferous Gum that continually dropped from its branches; which would instantly heal the most dangerous wounds, though deemed incurable by all other art. The name given to this wonderful plant, by the Fairy, was the Tree of Patience, whose inestimable gum, while the Princess slept, dropt into her fide; fo that, when she awoke, she found little or no inconvenience from the wound that pierced it; which so comforted her, that she now began to reflect on the words of the old Fairy, who only doomed her to that form till she should drink of the River of Good-nature; the confidered likewife, that it was but a just sentence for her inhuman behaviour; determined to rectify her future conduct, the fet out again on her journey, in order, if possible, to regain her former shape.

Full

Full of these good resolutions, she pursued her way along the most unfrequented parts; being conscious that her uncouth form would subject her to many inconveniencies, should she attempt to take her road through Cities: Accordingly, the travelled till the close of the day, without meeting any perfon whatever, when she came to a pretty, little, neat House: She looked up and fighed: " Alas!" faid fhe to herfelf, "Was "it not for my horrid figure, I might, perhaps, be wel-" comed here to a comfortable night's lodging; but I must If fly the face of all human beings, left I meet an untimely "end from those I once called my fellow-creatures." So faying, the let fall fome tears, and walked on, in order to feek a lodging in the forest; but had not gone far, before the perceived a very beautiful young Lady, fitting on a little graffy hillock, playing with a Lamb which was gamboling around her: She had no fooner fet eyes on our Bear, than the rose to run away; but the Princess kneeling down, caught her attention, by feveral gestures and motions, which appeared very strange for one of her feeming species; and no fooner faw her stop, than, advancing by slow degrees, she came up to her; and, laying her head on the ground, took the foot of the young Lady, whose name was Pity, between her two fore-paws, and fet it upon them, in order to shew that the was entirely at her disposal: This behaviour so amazed Pity, that the began to take courage, and be more familiar: Henry

familiar; diverting herself by sticking her shaggy coat with slowers; and when she returned home, (which was to that same little house the Princess before admired) suffered her to follow; and at length grew so fond, that her dear Bear was the constant companion of her rural amusements.

able to transform the most savere diner, in matter to the most

One day as they were walking by the fea-fide, a thought came into Florissa's head, by which she might make her friend acquainted with her former condition; accordingly, after first catching her attention, she, with one of her paws, made marks in the sand to this effect; "I am the unfortunate Princess Florissa." Pity had no sooner read this, than she guessed that her Bear was enchanted by some Fairy, and was lamenting that it was out of her power to release her, when she heard a voice, that seemed to proceed from under the water, repeat these words:

- "Tho' favage now she doth appear,
- "Yet hear, O gentle Pity, hear!

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- " The Cestus will fure aid impart,
- "If thou but fix it near her heart,"

Pity had no fooner heard these words, than she unlocked the Golden Girdle which she wore; and, as she thought the voice directed, put it round the Neck of the Princess. Now this Girdle, Pity, one day as she was walking, found floating in a neighbouring River, out of which the drew it; and was so captivated with its elegance, that she put it on, and confidered it as her greatest ornament; though she was ignorant till now of its real value:-It was called the Ceffus of Civility, and inherited a very remarkable quality, viz. that it was able to transform the most savage things in nature to the most gentle. Pity had no fooner cast this round the Neck of the Princess, then, to her utter assonishment, she beheld her black Bear transformed to a delicate white Pigeon, which immediately flew into her bosom, but did not long continue; for, fretching its wings, it mounted in the air, and was out of fight in an instant, leaving its disconsolate mistress to return home and bewail her loss: Where we will leave her, and follow our ærial Traveller; who, highly delighted with her fituation, continued her flight over feas, mountains, vales, and deferts, till she arrived at the most beautiful spot of land the had ever feen. Spring, Summer, and Autumn, feemed here eternally united; fruits, flowers, buds, and bloffoms, continually vying with each other, to render this charming Paradife (which was called the Plains of Concord) delightful: And in the midst of all ran the River of Good-nature, which flowed meandering into a thousand little streams, to water the plants and herbage of this happy land.

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Here the Princess alighted, and took a large draught, which she had no sooner done, than she immediately found herself restored to her former shape, and exactly equipped as when she lest Benigna; so, taking a large gold Bottle, (which the Fairy provided at her first setting out) she stooped down, and, silling it with the delicious liquor, turned and pursued her journey to the Fairy; but not before she had solaced herself, and admired the beauties that surrounded her.

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She had not long left the Plains of Concord, when she discovered in a Forest, through which she was passing, two armed Knights, fiercely encountering each other. Florissa, who had now entirely lost her former haughtiness, eagerly ran to part them, but to no purpose; the one, who was mounted on a White Steed, still persisting in forcing the other, mounted on a Black one, to continue the combat; finding, therefore, no entreaties would prevail, the Princess defired them at least to taste of the liquor she had in her hand, if only to refresh themselves; to which they consented; and had no sooner tasted, then they felt all the powerful effects of the River of Good-nature, from whence it was taken; for they involuntarily fell into each other's embraces; the Knight who rode on the White Steed asking forgiveness of the other for his former outrage.

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Thus, all differences being fettled, after returning mutual thanks to Florista, they seated themselves under a tree; when the Knight who rode the Black Steed said, he was going to the Grotto of a very powerful Fairy, named Benigna, upon an affair of the utmost consequence: The Princess, with some surprise, assured him she was bound for the same place, (which did not a little please the Knight, being already captivated with her charms) and begged to know the occasion of his journey, if not improper. "If it be agreeable, Madam," replied he, "I will relate the history of my life, which may "ferve to amuse you till the declining sun renders travelling "more delightful." Florista and the other Knight assured him they should esteem it a particular favour; when he began in the following manner:

The HISTORY of GENTLE REPROOF.

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on a Black one, to continue the caber; finder, therefore

"MY life, Madam," faid the stranger, "has been

themiclyes; to which shey confined; and had

" marked, from my earliest infancy, by misfortunes. My

Mother was a Fairy of the highest order; her name

" Friendship. It happened one day, when she was walking

" in the woods with her companions, that she was accossed

" by a young Knight of Royal extraction, whose agreeable

" person

laws of Fairy-land, the determined to marry him; notwithflanding the remonstrances of her Fairy Kindred.—By
this marriage the was excluded from the Fairy Court; fo
great is their dislike to an union with Mortals. But it gave
my Mother little uneasines; my Father, whose name was
Integrity, possessing a disposition so amiable, and consonant
with her own, that their lives were one continued scene of
love and harmony: The only thing that appeared wanting,
to complete their felicity, was a Child, on whom they
might lavish an equal share of tenderness:—It was not long
before this likewise was added; for, two years after their
union, I was born, to the inexpressible satisfaction of my
parents, and called Gentle Reproof. But, alas! this happiness was but of short duration.

"There was an old Fairy, called Malice, (though the generally went by the name of the Black Fairy, from the darkness of her complexion) who lived not far from our habitation; and had a particular aversion to my Mother, occasioned by the difference of their art; for, as my Mother delighted in, and practised, that part of Enchantment wholly Good—so her sole skill and pleasure depended on Evil:—She had long looked with a malignant eye on the happiness of our family; and, bursting with venom at

this addition to its happiness, invented a scheme to imbitter " it, by stealing me away. Accordingly, one day as I lay " afleep, rendering herfelf invifible, she entered the house, " and escaped with me undiscovered; then, hastening to her Den, The made use of many diabolical charms, which " changed my face black like her own; and fo entirely de-" formed me, that it would have been impossible for my Mo-" ther, notwithstanding her own art, to have known me, " unless affisted by a superior power: When thus disfigured " she called me Reproach. Educated under her tuition, and " knowing no other parents, I naturally became extremely " fond of her; and must do her the justice to acknowledge, " that she equally returned it. Her favourite amusement " was, to lay concealed in the Forest of Strife, with me at " her fide; and when she saw any traveller who had been " chastised by Ill-fame, (another old Fairy who frequented " those parts) Malice gave me the hint to wound the object " with my Arrows, which were prepared by my foster-mother " with fuch fubtle poifon, that they communicated a raging " madness through the whole frame; so that, unless the persons " wounded were fortunate enough to repair to a certain tree, " which contained an Antidote to the venom, they foon put an end to their own lives, and became our prey, which we deyoured at leifure. how to fool and and and a five it

side ".

Thus, Madam, you fee my life was spent in a state of " favage inhumanity, whilft my true parents lived bewailing "my lofs, and continually imploring the Fairy Court for re-"dress; but all the relief they could bestow was, to inform "them where I was, and by whose power detained; but the " charms were too powerful to be over-ruled by any ordi-" nary means: So that they continued deprived of hope many " years; when a young Fairy, of my Mother's acquaintance, " advised her to repair to the Cave of Merlin, a Magician, " and confult the Oracle.-To this end the fet out, and ar-" rived at the Cave: It was fituated between two high rocks, " and guarded by four gentle-minded Fairies, his comso panions, whom my Mother, by her art, eafily conversed " with; and having entered, together with the Magician, " confulted the Oracle; which answered, that, unless the " Ceftus of Civility, which lay hid in the Plains of Concord, " could be thrown round me, I should never return to my " natural form and understanding.

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"When my Mother understood this, she immediately went in pursuit of it; and found it in the place the Oracle pointed out.—Her next care was to cast it round me, although a very hazardous enterprise, I being constantly armed with the poisoned Arrows, ready to draw at the

to not investigate forbidding a ray poston, which was

" flightest notice: But my Mother, determined not to shrink " at danger where there was the least probability of recover- "ing me, came to the Forest where the Black Fairy and

" Myself were amusing ourselves with our accustomed di-

" versions; and in an instant encircled me with the Cestus;

before my Foster-mother, whose eye was fixed on a Black

" years's when a young Fairy, of my Mother's acquainments

" Bear I had just wounded "itnos yout tent of : anzom wram "

Here the Princess interrupted him; and, from many circumstances, discovered, to their mutual surprise, it was that very Arrow, aimed by Reproach, with which flee was wounded, when under the chastifement of Ill-fame. - After this the Knight proceeded: "The Black Fairy, Madam," as I was faying, "did not perceive my Mother till it was too " late; she made figns, indeed, for me to defend myself; but the Cestus, which had the wonderful power of taming the most savage nature, had instantly wrought an assonish-" ing change in me: My complexion was no longer dark, " nor my countenance forbidding; my person; which was " before deformed and bloated, was now smooth and delicate; my mind also underwent a total revolution; and I " felt a just abhorrence of my Foster-mother, and former way of life; when, turning round, I perceived my Real "Mother run, bidding me follow her; which It did, not-Capitalia " " withstanding with Hadding the rage tail threats of the Black Fairy, who who had now entirely lost there power over me but I was presently introduced to Integrity, my Father, who embraced into with Vall the transport of parental after the fermion with the wind enter agreeable company, we will follow in the intestinable spear of Truth.

"Thus my Parents were once more bleft; and I lived in the greatest tranquillity, till, being one day extremely hot, "I unlocked the Cestus, in order to bathe; but unfortunately let it fall into the river: I instantly plunged in to recover it; but the current ran so strong, that it was out of sight in a moment: Terrissed at the loss, I returned to my Mother, from whom I could gain no relief; her only advice being, that I should avoid the Forest of Strife, where Malice lived, and take a journey to Benigna, a powerful Fairy, who resided in the further part of this country; where I might, perhaps, gain some intelligence of it.—I had not proceeded far on my enterprise, before I was attacked by this Knight, when you timely interposed, and reconciled us with the valuable liquor of Good-nature."

Here the Knight concluded his narrative, which did not a little increase the affection Florissa had, from the first moment, entertained for him. — They pursued their journey,

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accompanied by the strange Knight, who declared himself bound on no particular Adventure.

As we have now an opportunity of leaving the Princess in such agreeable company, we will follow her Sister Clementina, in search of the inestimable Spear of Truth.

e was profesidy idvoduced to lavegries, my Father, who

Thus my Parene were once more the fey and Prived in the greatest trainquility, all, being one day extremely both a solicewell that Ce/Sur, in order to bathe; but ansoctainetely a lar will into the river: I inflandly planged but ansociated at the current rain for the right in was out of fight in a moment: Thermical at the first, i returned to the Mother, and make a local gain no relief, her only advice being. There is an extra thought and the format of banks, where Makes invert, and take a journey to benear a powerful Pairly. They have the relided in the Tanton part of this couldness where I might, perhaps, gain from invellagence of miles where where the public on my enterprive before I was maked by white Knight, when you timely interpoled, and reconciled the valuable liquor of God Maters.

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where the Knight concluded his narrative, which did not a little increase the affection blocking ind, from the field more ment, entertained for him — They purified tear journey, account

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the looked round, in hopes of discovering some house where

the might pals the night a on perceiving any, was fain to their herfelf from the rain in a thick Wood, on the

A DEN TURES abared, the attempted to regain the Regist Road; but, sine!

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this Wood, called the Langricth of Error, was for intricate, that, together with the call nets of the night, rendered it

utterly impossible to obtain her defires and, to her inexuref-PRINCESS CLEMENTINA

mament in expectation of being torn to pieces by whe wild

TLEMENTINA, the third Princess, began her journey with a much lighter heart than her Sisters: She was of a lively, volitale disposition, and wished to see the world; she had likewise a defire to give Benigna a proof of her fortitude, by overcoming those dangers she had informed her lay in the way, unless she kept the straight Road: This the Princess was determined not to do, being confident she was capable of furmounting every difficulty and temptation. Seeing, therefore, a pleafant meadow, she turned afide; and, finding herself extremely drowfy, fell into a profound sleep, in which she continued till roused by a loud clap of thunder: She started up, and, to her great terror, found it the close of day; and that a violent form had gathered over her head: m an autor mate Traveller," replied the

is fixing laft nights of my way in this Wildernets."

She

She looked round, in hopes of discovering some house where she might pass the night; but, not perceiving any, was fain to shelter herself from the rain in a thick Wood, on the opposite side of the meadow. The storm having somewhat abated, she attempted to regain the Right Road; but, alas! this Wood, called the Labyrinth of Error, was so intricate, that, together with the darkness of the night, rendered it utterly impossible to obtain her desire; and, to her inexpressible horror, she was obliged to spend the night there; every moment in expectation of being torn to pieces by the wild beasts, whose savage cries echoed from side to side of the wilderness.

She now heartily repented of her confident folly, in neglecting the good advice of Benigna; believing that she should be devoured, as a punishment for her undutiful conduct.—However, for her security, she ascended a tree, and by that means passed the night in safety. In the morning she descended, fully resolved to make all possible speed to the public road; but had scarce left the tree, when she was accosted by an old Hermit, arrayed in a long white garment, covered with a gray mantle, reaching to his girdle: "Good "morrow, sweet Lady," said he, "whither are you going "fo early?" "I am an unfortunate Traveller," replied the Princess, "who, last night, lost my way in this Wilderness."

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"If you will step with me," said the old Man, "to my cottage, which is hard by, and accept of a breakfast, I will afterwards conduct you on your way:" "Thank you, "my good Father," said she, "I'll accept of your invitation; for I am really very faint for want of refreshment:"
"You will find," said he, "no costly fare, no luxurious "meats or liquors; nothing but plain and poor, with a "hearty welcome." Clementina affured him she preferred that to the greatest dainties without it. The Hermit then asked her to whom she belonged? The Princess answered, "To the Fairy Benigna; and that she was, by her appoint- ment, travelling in pursuit of the Spear of Truth."

first to her refolution; when Hypogrify, bughterling his covo-

As they were conversing in this manner, they entered the cottage; and the old Man covered the table with milk, honey, and dried fruits, of which he kindly invited the Princess to partake: And when they were seated at their repass, amused her by relating the most entertaining tales; at the same time intermixing such wholesome and paternal advice, that, captivated with his agreeable conversation, Clementina lost all thoughts of pursuing her journey that day; and at length was persuaded by her host, whose name was Hypocrisy, to spend some time there; and became so pleased with his honest freedom and seriousness, that, had it not been for Benigna, whomes the still tenderly loved, she would have been contented to

have refided with him her whole life; but when the confidered that, by this conduct, the must entirely relinquish the design for which she set out, and by that means forfeit the friendship and protection of Benigna; her spirit was newly animated; and she proposed to the old Hermit to continue her journey: "My dear Child," said he, "let me persuade "you to abandon this dangerous pursuit; and abide in peace and tranquillity with me, where you will enjoy the pleasures of a rural life: I am sensible, continued he, should I lose you, that my heart will break."

" To declary Benings and that fine was, by her appoint

Notwithstanding these alluring words, Clementina stood firm to her resolution; when Hypocrify, brightening his countenance, "I did it but to try you," said he, " and would be " the last person to dissuade you from so glorious an enter" prise as that of obtaining the Spear of Truth; and, though
" I live in this obscurity, I may, perhaps, render you some
" service: There is a friend of mine, who keeps an elegant
" house not far from hence; at my defire she will direct
" you a much nearer and easier way." He had scarce ended
this sentence, when a young Woman, very smartly dressed,
" entered: Conduct this Traveller," said Hypocrify, (turning towards her) " to your Mistres: Tell her she is in pursuit
" of the Spear of Truth; and that I am much interested in her

fuccess:"—Saying this, he respectfully bowed to Clementina, and parted, with much seeming concern.

The young Damfel, whose name was Flattery, conducted the Princess through the Labyrinth of Error with great complaisance. Her winning manners, and agreeable conversation, so delighted the Princess, that she imagined herself fortunate beyond her most fanguine wishes, in meeting with so agreeable a companion; nor did Flattery, on her part, appear to be less pleased; endeavouring, by all the art she was mistress of, to ingratiate herself with Clementina; lavishing on her the most extravagant compliments; telling her she was more beautiful, witty, and accomplished, than any she had ever before feen, &c. These foothing accents funk deep into the heart of the Princess, (who was naturally fond of admiration) and engroffed her attention, till a very ornamented building, painted with various colours, appeared in view. The Princess, observing its magnificence, asked her companion if it belonged to the Lady to whom they were going?-Flattery answered it did; but affured her, that the elegance of the infide infinitely furpaffed that of the out.

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By this time they were at the brink of a river, that glided before the entrance, planted on each fide with orange and other odoriferous shrubs and trees: Here Flattery called to

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one of the attendants, and ordered a glass of water from the stream; which she presented to the Princess, telling her that, although the was accomplished and beautiful even to excess, yet one draught of that liquor would render her ten thousand times more fo: Clementina, without hefitation, put it to her lips; and, finding the taste extremely pleasant, drank it off. Now the name of this stream was the River of Self-conceit; and was endowed with fuch an intoxicating quality, as instantly to unsettle the understanding of those who tasted of it, and make them imagine their native charms much heightened by the draught they had taken.—The Princess soon found its effects, for, casting her eyes downward to the stream, she fancied the reflection of herfelf beautiful as an Angel: Her complexion feemed to glow with unufual loveliness; her eyes to flash brighter fire; and she had a number of little smart fentences at the end of her tongue, which she only wanted time and opportunity to utter. and the barning and the

She was not long reflecting on this wonderful change, when Flattery introduced her to a spacious gallery, richly adorned with Bronzes, and the most high-finished fabulous Paintings; from whence they passed to a suite of appartments equally elegant, in which were several parties of Ladies and Gentlemen, amusing themselves variously; dancing, finging, or playing different games, cards, dice, &c. They all seemed

They Princels, contaming its magaincence, afted her

seemed to enjoy the sessivity; and invited Clementina, as she passed, to join in their diversions: But she followed her guide to a room even superior to the former, where Flattery presented her to Falsehood, the possessor of this enchanting Mansion. She appeared to be about five and twenty; and so fair, that the Princess now began to think with indifference on the beauty of her dear Benigna: Falsehood was dressed in a changeable filk garment, embroidered with soils and feathers; and a wreath of rubies encircled her fine black hair, which fell in ringlets on her bosom. To this charming semale Flattery introduced the Princess, by informing Falsehood from whence she came; and that their good friend, the Hermit, had strongly recommended her as a guest worthy to be amused, being on a journey, in search of the Spear of Truth.

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Falsehood, who perfectly understood the old Hermit's message, assured the Princess, with a most bewitching smile, that the dangers and difficulties in that road were so great, as to render it impossible to be attained; and even were it possible, it was scarcely worth the trouble, it being an old, rusty, antiquated Weapon, much out of use: But my house, said she, taking her by the hand, shall be at your service, provided you consent to continue with me. This speech was no sooner ended, than Flattery, in her natural infinuating manner, began to add the most powerful persuasions; so that

which was a spectire, who continually harmed the

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the Princels, whose Brain was intoxicated with the liquor she had drank from the River of Self-conceit, at her first entrance, began to look with disgust on the innocent pleasure she had tasted in the Grotto of the Fairy; and thought that her beauty, wit, and accomplishments, deserved better than to be confined to a solitary life: With these considerations, she was easily persuaded to stay, and give up the fatiguing journey allotted her by Benigna. She had no sooner signified her intention, than Flattery conducted her back to those companies she had before seen, who readily admitted her to their societies.

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She spent the first two or three days in the most agreeable manner: One thing only alarmed and gave her uneasiness; which was a Spectre, who continually haunted the Mansion, and had the most stern and unpleasant aspect she ever beheld: He walked about, armed with a pair of Pincers, waiting every opportunity to allure any one of the company from the rest; when he made use of these Pincers to nip and torment them; their only resource being to join the companies and diversions as soon as possible, where he seldom intruded. This Spectre, whose name was Evil-conscience, in a little time became so troublesome to Clementina, that she lost all relish for the amusements that had before so charmed her. She frequently complained to her savourite, Flattery, of the

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laughed; and told her, that she must not give any attention to him, for "That he was only an impertinent old fellow, "who had intruded himself, she could not tell how, into the house, and attached himself so firmly to Falsehood, her mistress, that, notwithstanding their endeavours, they could never get rid of him: But, added she, being continually furrounded by society, we give him little observance." This, however, did not satisfy Clementina, who grew every day more and more discontented with her situation: The company, the diversions, no more delighted her; and she now looked back, with regret, on those happy hours she had spent in the grotto of Benigna.

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In this unhappy state of mind, she one day went out to walk in the groves that surrounded the house, in order to try, if possible, to escape the vigilance of her constant tormentor, the Spectre; when she was met by a venerable looking Hermit, of a very serious countenance. "You seem in haste, young Lady," said he, accossing her: "I am ended deavouring," replied the Princess, "to escape a dreadful "Spectre that haunts our house:" "What, the house of "Falsehood?" said the Hermit. The Princess answered "Yes;" "I am happy," returned the Hermit, "that you "have taken this path, as I can easily free you from him, "provided."

" provided you put yourself under my protection, and con" sent to leave this place immediately."

Clementina, fearful of being again deceived, hefitated; but, after viewing his countenance steadfastly, was fully perfuaded he would be her friend: She then told him she formerly fet out in fearch of the Spear of Truth, and defired nothing more than again to purfue her journey; but that she had now unfortunately forgot what road she should take. " My name," faid the Hermit, " is Repentance; and it is in " my power only to take you from the tyranny of that " Spectre, and again put you in the straight Road to obtain " the Spear of Truth:" He then commanded the Princess to kneel, and, taking a little Box of Balfam from his pocket, "This," faid he, "is the precious balfam of Good-refolu-"tion; without which you would never be able to escape " the Mansion of Falsehood, who is an Enchantress." Saying this, he anointed her shoulders with the balfam, and the Princess instantly felt a pair of Wings grow out of them, with which the could fly to the most distant parts. Repentance then conducted her to the straight Road; when, with the affistance of her Wings, she presently lost fight of the habitation of Falsehood, and arrived at the foot of the Mountain where the Bright Spear was held up to the person who attained the Summit. Here Clementina faw many people looking with with a wishful eye on it; but, for want of the Wings of Refolution, they still continued at the Bottom. The Princess, by the use of these, with little difficulty, gained the wished-for Eminence; and was presented with the Spear of Truth by a beautiful Female, the Guardian of it.

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"I refign you," faid she, "this invaluable Treasure; and congratulate you on escaping the arts which Falsehood and Hypocrify never fail to throw in the way of those who set out in pursuit of it: Go, continued she, and return in fafety to Benigna, far from the Labyrinth of Error, and fecure from those dangers from which the Spear of Truth can alone defend you." She then smiled with inestable sweetness on the Princess, and left her to return to the Gaurdian Fairy, who received her with open arms, and the warmest congratulations.

This Prince is had not advanced far on her journey, before the was accorded by an old fairly who spoke to her in the following words: " I am," faid the Frey who by my .tt.

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PRINCESS BONNETTA.

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GOOD-NATURE, affability, and sweetness of temper, shone conspicuous in the character of the Princess Bonnetta, and amply made amends for the defects of her person. She was short, crooked, and dark-complexioned; but, notwithstanding these defects, she captivated the hearts of all who knew her, by her good sense and amiable disposition.

This Princess had not advanced far on her journey, before the was accosted by an old Fairy, who spoke to her in the following words: "I am," said the Fairy, "by my art, "aequainted that the Fates have ordained you a journey, "long, difficult, and replete with innumerable dangers:

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You are young and inexperienced; and, without some fufufurnatural defence, will unavoidably fall a prey to those
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Bonnetta, delighted with the Gift of the old Fairy, seated herself beneath a tree, to indulge the agreeable reflections her good fortune produced in her mind; for she now fancied she might pursue her journey free from interruption: When an ancient Hermit walked slowly towards her; he was dressed in a long black gown and cap, and held a White Wand in his hand. "Daughter," said he to the Princess, "you are, doubtless, ignorant that the Rod, which seems to inspire you with resolution and delight, ought rather to fill your mind with dissidence and regret; but, lest the affertion of a stranger may possibly obtain little credit, I will relate my history."—So saying, he seated himself bestide her, and began in the following manner:

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The HISTORY of the HERMIT of the WHITE ROCK.

" MY name," faid the Hermit, " is Albubeca. I first " drew breath in a Cavern, at the fummit of a tremendous or precipice, called the White Rock; where, for fome years, "I enjoyed a feries of uninterrupted quiet; but at length an " Adventure happened, which drew me from this scene of " inactivity: One evening, led by the ferenity of the air, I " followed the course of a winding River, till I lost myself, " amidst a chain of almost inaccessible mountains; when on a fudden, at the entrance of a little wood, I was ftruck " by the appearance of a brilliant Chariot, which appeared " as if ornamented with feveral precious stones: Being fen-" fible that these Mountains were uninhabited, I was at a loss " to fathom the mistery; but I had scarce time for reflection, " when I heard a shrill voice call me by my name, and, " turning round, discovered, at a small distance from me, a " terrible-looking old Fairy, who, with evident marks of " confusion, bid me approach; near her was standing a young Female, who, though beautiful beyond expression, fill wore a stern and commanding aspect.

" Immediately as I approached, the old Fairy laid hold on a Rod which I held in my hand; and, with precipi-" tation, uttered these words, " May half of that power I " poffess pass to this Rod: "See," continued she, turning to " the beautiful figure who stood at her fide, " my art shall " still remain active." The other, without reply, struck the " ground with a bright Spear, when, to my utter aftonish-" ment, the Wood in which we were standing, and the old " Fairy, disappeared: I then found myself in a verdant mea-" dow, accompanied by the beautiful Celeftial, for fuch " I found she was, who spoke to me in these words, "The Fates," faid she, "have permitted you to be a witness " to fome fecrets, whereby the Vindictive are governed. I " am Justice, one of the superior Deities: The name of that " old Fairy is Revenge; the has endeavoured to frustrate my " defigns, by transmitting a part of her power to that Rod " you now hold in your hand; by which means she imagines " that Mankind will still groan under the weight of her de-" structive art:" " But," continued Justice, " I will in part " defeat the Evil of her intention." She then took the Rod " from my hand, and having touched it with her Spear, called " it the Rod of Retribution; and returned it with thefe " words, "Revenge be far from thee; abuse not my dele-" gated Power, but punish Vice, and reward Virtue." She " then, with a smile of Righteous dignity, taking me by the H 2 hand,

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- " hand, bid me return to my habitation in peace; and,
- " mounting the radient Chariot I had before feen, was in-
- " flantly out of fight: The air was mild and temperate, as
- " before.
- "I travelled on till I came to the head of a River, whose
- " winding current conducted me back to my home. I im-
- " mediately entered my Cavern, possessed of the Rod of Re-
- " tribution, and adhered strictly to the injunction of Justice.
- " I called forth its evil properties to chastife Vice; and its good
- " to reward Virtue.
- "I continued in peace and tranquillity, till the fatal period
- " arrived, that Revenge, by the affistance of a most wicked
- " confederate, employed her art to the utmost, in order to
- " force me to forego the Rod of Retribution, but in vain;
- " till one day, being in an indolent frame of mind, a beau-
- " tiful figure, whom I imagined to be Justice, entered my
- " habitation, and, with ease, persuaded me to relinquish it:
- " As I gave it into her hand, a tear of apprehension gushed
- " from my eye; but I treated it as the effusion of a weak
- " mind. I had no fooner parted with this treasure, than
- " another Female, far superior in graceful dignity to the for-
- " mer, stood before me: She told me that I had, by my
- " credulity, put the Rod of Retribution into the hands of the

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" old Fairy Revenge, who had artfully, for that purpose, " affumed the form of Justice: She added, that the instant " Revenge got possession of my Rod, she had annihilated it's " good properties, and left the evil alone remaining; with " which she would still continue to scourge Mankind: She " then prefented me with a Wand, telling me it was en-" dowed with the powerful bleffing of conferring folely good; " and commanded me to use it in defence of the Innocent and "Unprotected: After this she disappeared; informing me " that she was Mercy, one of the Celestial Visitors. It was " by the power of this Wand that I rendered myfelf in-" vifible, and discovered Revenge deliver the dangerous "Rod to you, which is now entirely Gifted by her diabolical " Art: She is acquainted that you are in pursuit of the Mantle " of Meekness; and is sensible that the powerful Rod will " most probably frustrate your attempts to obtain it."

Here the Princess interrupted him; "Let me instantly," said she, "throw this destructive Power from me:" "No;" replied the Hermit, "Heaven permits you to receive it, "as a trial of your worth: To bear Injuries with patience, "when destitute of power to return them, is a tribute due to your own ease; but to endure them with moderation, "whilst the Rod of Retribution rests in your hand, is an effort of true fortitude. Go, then, my Daughter, and, pos-

" sessed of it, approve yourself worthy of that invaluable treasure of which you are in pursuit." He then disappeared, and left the Psincess to continue her journey.

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Bonnetta travelled many days without meeting with any adventure worth notice, till, on a sudden, she selt several parts of her body pierced by a shower of Darts, which issued from a thick Forest by which she was passing; equally surprised and terrisied, she endeavoured to escape by the swiftness of her seet, but in vain, for the darts still pursued her with equal rapidity.

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It is now time to confider the cause of this missortune. The Reader will certainly recollect Malice, the Black Fairy, who had formerly so considerable a share in the adventure of Gentle Reproof; and will remember, likewise, that she armed him with poisoned Arrows, and then named him Re proach: But the powerful Cessus had no sooner rendered him beyond her reach, than the Arrows, which were sitted only for his hand, remained useless. Malice, however, could not long suffer her diabolical spirit to rest; but, with many secret spells and invocations, formed a magic Maehine exactly to resemble a Porcupine, which, on the slightest intimation, would dart its envenomed quills into

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the most susceptible parts of the human frame; and, having animated it with her own venom, called it Slander.

Thus the Darts of Slander pursued Bonnetta; the pain of which, though by no means equal to that occasioned by the Arrows of Reproach, were, nevertheless, sufficiently excruciating: She often selt a strong inclination to retort the anguish she endured to the author of it, which she could instantly have done, by waving the Enchanted Rod put into her hand by the Fairy Revenge; but when she reflected on the words of the Hermit of the White Rock, she determined to endure any thing, rather than, by the use of this dangerous Gift, to forseit the hopes of obtaining that treasure of which she was in pursuit.

With incredible swiftness she continued her slight, till, at the entrance of a Cavern, she perceived an old Man, who, with much kindness in his address, entreated her to enter, and shelter herself from the Darts of Slander; he inveighed most bitterly at the cruelty of her persecutors; and wondered, nay, infinuated, that she should exercise the power which he had been informed a certain Fairy, called Revenge, had intrusted her with: That topic the Princess waved, and stood silent; when he, with much seeming sympathy, begged she would conside in him, if

any thing unfavourable in her affairs had caused her misfortunes, as his Heart and Doors were always open to succour the distressed; by such kind speeches the Princess, overjoyed to have arrived at a place of security, immediately went in; but had scarce set her soot on the inside, when she felt herself sink many fathoms under ground into a deep dungeon.

She had scarce recovered from a swoon, which the fall occasioned, when the old Man entered; who rejoiced at adding another to the list of his Captives, and, with a malignant smile, confined her amongst a number of unfortunate wretches, who, like herself, had been decoyed into his snares.

Here Bonnetta was frequently on the point of exercifing the Enchanted Rod; but the native mildness of her disposition, joined to that firm desire the ever felt of obtaining the immortal Mantle of Meekness, still rose superior, and put an end to so dangerous an expedient: Nor did she repent of this conduct; for, on the third day, her old friend the Hermit of the White Rock stood before her: "I am "charmed," said he, "with your moderation, in forbearing "to use the Rod; which will not in the end go unrewarded: "Resign now, said Albubeca, that Rod to me; for, though

w you have more trials to encounter, they will be in a " flate where its power would be useless; and remember, "that, if difficult the combat, the more glorious will be your " victory: You are now, unfortunately, fallen into the fnares " of Treachery, a Powerful, but evil Magician; his Charms " are too firong to be overcome, except by a fuperior En-" chantment: You must therefore, to avoid the snares of "Treachery, for a time bid adieu to all converse with Hu-" man Beings; chuse, then, and I will release you, either " by transforming you to a Dolphin or a Nightingale."

Bonnetta felt her imagination incline strongly to become an inhabitant of the air; but, being willing to act cautioully, the continued filent, while the debated the question in the following manner: " If I become a Nightingale," faid she to herfelf, " I shall with ease skim to the utmost of "this vast world; and discover the various wonders that " adorn its Palaces, Plains, Mountains, and Seas; befides " observing the different customs and manners of Mankind. " But what is pleafure," faid she, recollecting herself, "unless " we can diffuse it to others? I shall be alone in the wide " world, without one Friend or Companion to partake of " my delights." Here a flood of tears covered her face. to'a pleasant Valley; through it ran a clear fiream, at the

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"If I become a Dolphin," said she, continuing her reflections, "though I lose the light of the Sun, I shall still hold "a part in the concerns of Mortality: I shall warn the unthinking Mariner of the gathering storm; and teach him to prepare for the approaching danger: And this confolation will ever remain, that, although I should no more be permitted to mix with my native species, I shall still be useful to the cause of Humanity."

" man Beings chuler then, and I will This last reflection pleaded so forcibly with the amiable Princess, that she entreated Albubeca to transform her to a Dolphin: When the Hermit, who was acquainted with what paffed in her mind, thus answered her: "Because you have preferred active Virtue to the Enchantments of Plea-" fure, both shall attend you: "Be," faid he, striking her with his Wand, " at discretion, a Dolphin or a Nightingale:" Which words were no fooner uttered, than the Princess became a Dolphin, fporting in a large Ocean: But, having a defire to try how the should approve of an arial fituation, she wished she might become a Nightingale; and in an instant, as the Hermit had promifed, the mounted the Air in that form. It being evening, she flew towards a cottage, and flept on the branches of a pear-tree, and in the morning took her flight to a pleafant Valley; through it ran a clear stream, at the de of which fat an handsome young Knight.—Bonnetta, being attracted

attracted by the gracefulness of his person, perched herself on a tree hard by, to observe him.

He had tied his horse to a tree, and was entertaining himfels with a Book; but in a short time arose, and, mounting his steed, which was milk-white, rode slowly up the valley; while the Princess, who had an earnest desire to discover who this agreeable young Knight was, followed at a short distance.

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The first object that caught their attention, was a magnificent Castle, built with the finest Egyptian Marble, with losty windows, the frames of which were made of wrought Gold; and the whole Edisice was adorned with the richest sculpture art could invent. The stranger stopt to admire it; as also his little ærial Companion, who had never in her life seen any thing so elegantly rich and noble.

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In the mean while, a very beautiful young Lady approached, and invited the Knight to enter the Castle, and refresh himself: At first he resused; but, being entreated a second time, complied, and sollowed her. The Princess likewise intended being of the party; and was watching an opportunity to enter, undiscovered, when the Hermit of the White Rock stood before her: "Whither are you going,"

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faid

faid he, frowning; " you know not what danger lurks " beneath that finery: The Castle belongs to a deformed "Giant, called Pride, who endeavours to difguife his odious " figure by the costliness of his habit: That Lady, who ap-" peared so beautiful, is his Wife; her name is Vanity. By " an artful and infinuating address, the decoys unthinking "Travellers, passing that way, into her Castle: Where they " are kept in a state of abject slavery, to augment the re-" tinue of the Giant Pride, her husband: Yet so alluring is " the address of Vanity, that they remain pleased with their " condition, and utterly infenfible to their Bondage; which, "once known, could eafily be shook off. The Knight she " has now entrapped is travelling in pursuit of adventures; " he is an amiable youth, but too frequently led away by " false appearances, and is called the Knight of the Silver "Shield." - he had diff more wood days abid aid old an

"Alas!" replied the Princess, "and is there not a possi"bility of recovering him from her Enchantments?" "I
"have," said the Hermit, "in my possession a Charm, which,
"if properly applied, is able to destroy the enchantment of
that inglorious pride, which aims at no other excellence
than that of out-shining others; which is the ruling passion
of that supercilious being the Giant Pride, and his juvenile Lady, Vanity. The name of my powerful Charm is
"the

"the Ring of Humility, which, when rubbed on the eyelids of the Persons held by their art, immediately causes
them to discover their confinement; when it requires little
exertion to shake off their chains: I will intrust you with
this inestimable jewel, if, after what I have told you, you
have courage to enter the Castle and apply it. Bonnetta,
who selt her heart deeply interested in the welfare of the
Knight, readily embraced the proposal; when Albubeca,
taking the ring from his singer, slipped the neck of our
Nightingale into it, and, bidding her farewel, disappeared."

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The Prince's, unperceived, sped her slight to the great Hall of the Castle; at the upper end was seated the Giant, who, notwithstanding the richness of his crimson and gold Robe, appeared to Bonnetta the most deformed of human beings: He was seated at a splendid Banquet, surrounded by a crowd of Knights and Ladies, who all appeared to be in the height of merriment, &c. But it must certainly have astonished her (had she not before been informed by the Hermit) to observe, that each of the guests wore a large Gold Chain, one end of which was sastened to their right soot, and the other to their neck; so that it might truly be said, they were magnificent slaves. This they were perfectly insensible to; and continued in great glee, which was much augmented by Vanity,

Vanity, whose sole aim seemed the entertainment of her guests. Amongst the rest, not without a sensible mortification, the Princess observed the Knight of the Silver Shield, who appeared to be much captivated by the wit and beauty of Vanity; the Giant being too much employed with his own importance to give any attention to the concerns of his Wife.

When Bonnetta had made every necessary observation, to-wards evening she stole, unperceived, to the chamber allotted for the Knight; and, concealing herself in the hangings, waited till he retired to rest. She no sooner observed him asleep, then she alighted softly on the bed; and, taking the Ring in her beak, applied it to his eye-lids, as the Hermit had directed; and, again slipping her neck into it, slew to her place of concealment.

In the morning, when the Knight awoke, he was much amazed to find his neck and right foot encumbered with a large Chain; and being convinced, as he thought, that it was not so when he went to rest, imagined that some one had been in his chamber, and treacherously taken advantage of him whilst asleep: Stung with this idea, he started up; and, to his great surprise, with ease shook off his bondage. He could not, however, reconcile this mystery, in appearance so strange; but was going down stairs, determined, if possible,

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that had imprudently perched on a rich cabiner, preparing to ferenade him. But how was he amazed to observe her neck adorned with a jewel that far outshone any he had seen the preceding day in the Castle! So, taking hold of her, notwithstanding she fluttered, beat her wings, and used her utmost endeavours in defence of it, he pulled it from her neck; and putting that on one finger, and her on the other, walked to the great Hall.

But here was fresh matter for astonishment; his fellow guests, whom he had the night before considered as Noblemen of the first rank, now appeared to be miserable Captives, kept in a splendid bondage, to augment the retinue of a deformed Giant. He remonstrated with several on their abject situation, endeavouring to rouse them to revenge the indignity offered to their persons: But they refused to give ear to his advice, believing his understanding to be impaired. Finding, therefore, all entreaties vain, he walked slowly from the Castle, restecting on the strange adventures he had met with; which he fully believed to proceed from some Enchantment. The Knight was at a considerable distance before he observed that he had lost his little Nightingale, who had, unperceived, been taken from his hand by one of the guests at the

the Castle; and was now confined, much against her inclination, in a gilt cage.

forenade him. I But how was he amaged to oblighe her nack

Trusting that every reader is interested in the welfare of this amiable Princess, we will leave the Knight of the Silver Shield to pursue his journey, possessed of the valuable Ring of Humility, and return once more to the Castle of Pride.

and putting that on one finger, and her on the orler walked

Poor Bonnetta languished many days in confinement, till at length an opportunity presented itself for her escape: It happened that her Keeper went one day to angle in a garden belonging to the Castle; and, taking the Cage in which she was confined, set it beside him: By good fortune the door slew open, and Bonnetta, who impatiently waited an opportunity of escaping, instantly leaped to the river a Dolphin.

She was foon far beyond the confines of the Giant's Castle, and continued gliding in the watery element till, to her inconceivable terror, she felt her body encompassed by a net; and in a few minutes, with several of her sinny companions, drawn into a Boat: But how great was her joy and satisfaction, to behold in this boat her savourite Knight of the Silver Shield! Bonnetta was on the point of changing herself again to a Nightingale, when the air darkened; and an old Fairy entered the Boat, and caused it to strike upon a Rock; then, seemingly

feemingly seizing the Knight in her arms, conveyed him out of fight in an instant.

The Princess endeavoured to mount in the air as usual; but, instead of a Nightingale, she was restored to her natural form, and at a vast distance from the spot where she lost sight of the Knight. She had scarce time to look round, before the Hermit of the White Rock appeared: "You will "now," said he, "receive the reward due to your Virtue: "We are," continued he, "on the borders of the Celestial "Island, where the immortal Mantle of Meekness is pre"served."

This fentence was scarce uttered, when a beautiful Female approached, with two lovely Infants bearing the Mantle of Meekness before her. — "My name," said she, addressing herself to Bonnetta, "is Justice, ordained by heaven to "punish Vice and reward Virtue: The Mantle of Meekness is "justly your's, who have so firmly and mildly suffered the "cruelties of Slander and Treachery; and amply repays the "toil of attaining,"—Saying this, she put it on the Princess; and turned again to the Celestial Island, her eternal abode.

Bonnetta, whose person was before deformed, and seatures unpleasing, by the power of the Mantle now surpassed her

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fisters in beauty; and with this advantage, that it would continue to the most extreme age.

"You have now," said Albubeca, embracing her, "no more perils to encounter: Go, therefore, and pursue your way in safety to Benigna, whither the Fates will conduct the Knight of the Silver Shield:—He is worthy of your affection, and ordained to be your Husband." Saying this, he, with many devout wishes, left the Princess to continue her journey. We will at present follow his example, in order to learn what befel the Princess Orinda, in pursuit of the Magnet of true Generosity.

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PRINCESS ORINDA.

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THE Princess Orinda, in loveliness of person, surpassed the most lavish description: She was tall, fair, finely proportioned; and, in short, might truly be considered a compleat beauty: Her adventures at first consisted chiefly in acts of Benevolence to weary and distressed Travellers, as she passed on the road; pleasing herself with the many acts of superior relief the Magnet would empower her to indulge herself in at her return, she pursued her journey with such cheerful speed, that she passed far beyond the turn marked out in her directory; and, during one of these Reveries, she entered a dreary avenue which led her on to an old Castle, which appeared to have suffered much by the ravages of Time: The night approaching, the Princess was alarmed for

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her fafety; but hoping, if not from Hospitality, yet from Courtesy, some respect would be paid to her appearance, she took courage; and, after knocking, called repeatedly, but could make no one hear, to give her admittance; when, seeing a small wicket stand open, she entered, and passed through several spacious apartments, many entirely unfurnished, others with furniture hanging in rags, and spiders' webs hanging like banners from the ancient ceilings. In one of these solitary apartments she was met by an old Man, bent double with age; he was dressed in a coarse slithy-looking garment, and had every appearance of poverty about him; but, notwithstanding this, he carried a Gold Wand in his hand.

This frightful apparition, scarcely to be called human, accosted the Princess, and, with a morose, surly tone of voice and air, demanded who she was, and what business she had there? Orinda answered, that she was travelling in pursuit of the Magnet of true Generosus; but that, night coming on, she had unfortunately taken a wrong Path, and lost her way.—Upon this the old Man, who was a Magician, named Avarice, frowned, and listed his hand in order to strike her; but, perceiving her to be extremely beautiful, he altered his intention; and, taking her by the hand, with a smile that seldom graced his countenance, led her to an Iron Door, at which

which they entered an apartment occupied by several deformed Wretches like himself: They looked with malignity on the new-comer, as her dress and deportment bespoke her of a disposition very opposite to that of their Governor and themselves. Avarice, introducing her to this wretched assembly, declared, with an austere voice, that he thought her worthy to be his Consort; and commanded them to respect her as the Lady of his Mansion.

The poor Princess no sooner heard this dreadful sentence pronounced, than she fainted; and continued in a state of insensibility till some hours after; when she sound herself laid on a miserable dirty bed, and surrounded by three or sour old Females, who paid homage to her as the intended Bride of their Lord and Master, Avarice.

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In a little time the Magician himself entered; and, after dismissing the attendants, addressed her in the following manner: "It appears to me, young Damsel, that you are in: "sensible to the honour Fortune throws in your way, by rendering you agreeable to me: It is true I have paid some tribute to Time, and may not, perhaps, appear quite agreeable to the delicacy of a Maiden's eye; but the treassers it is in my power to bestow will more than compense fate for my personal impersections, were they more nu-

"merous." Saying this, he waved his wand, and Orinda instantly perceived the room covered with heaps of Gold: "You see," continued he, "what power I posses; and yet this is nothing to what I will make you mistress of, pro"vided you will consent to become my Wise. I give you one hour to consider of my proposal; in which time re"member, that, as it is in my power to reward your com"pliance, so is it equally to punish a refusal." With these words he left the unfortunate Orinda to bewail her ill-sate, which first led her to enter this forlorn Castle.

No fooner was the Magician departed, than she began to consider if there was not a possibility of escaping this horrid Union, worse than death itself. She had reason to believe that Avarice, on a resusal, would proceed to extremities; and, on the other hand, she was determined to die rather then consent to so unsuitable a match: At last a stratagem occurred to her, by which she might have some little chance of escaping, which she executed in the following manner:

She got up, and putting on a cheerful and contented countenance, when Avarice returned for her final resolution, she received him with the greatest affability and seeming satisfaction. "I beg," said she, in a mild and penitent tone, that you will forget my former disgust, which is now to-

tally vanished: It is true our years are a little dispromortioned; but, when I consider your kindness in making
me mistress of such vast treasure, gratitude alone would
force me to prefer you to the most accomplished young
Lover: I have only one request to make, to which if you
will agree, I am ready to wait your pleasure."

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Old Avarice, who did not expect fo easy a compliance, was overjoyed; and promifed, with many proteflations, to grant whatever she should defire.- "Nay," faid the Princess, " it is nothing more than that our Wedding may be de-" ferred four days, in order to absolve myself from a Vow " which I made never to marry without the confent of my " Parents." Avarice readily confented; and Orinda was left to amuse herself as she thought fit. But her ideas were wholly absorbed in concerting measures for her escape: Her first endeavour was, to discover the Path which originally led her to this unfortunate fituation; but, to her great mortification, that fide of the Castle at which she entered was now entirely locked up: Her only hope, therefore, depended on her afcending a large barren Rock, which inclosed the back part of the Dwelling. Many times the attempted to climb up, and make her escape over this, but to no purpose, it being so extremely steep, as to baffle every effort.

they entered the House's Louis vices incoduced her to the

In the utmost despair she now saw the morning of the fourth day approach, when, going to essay the Rock for the last time, she perceived a young Man standing on the top.— Orinda, who had no time to lose, giving him to understand, by signs, her miserable condition, he descended; and, with very little difficulty, led her to the summit. Here the Princess discovered an open plain, on which stood a superb Mansion: It was surrounded by most delightful plantations; ornamented with sine pieces of water, and gardens dressed with clumps of fragrant slowers; so that the Princess, from the contrast to that she had so lately lest, fancied herself in a perfect Paradise: And thought she could never sufficiently express her gratitude to the young Man, who had delivered her from a situation which she now, if possible, considered worse than before.

As they proceeded on their way, Luxury, (for that was the name of her Conductor) informed her, that the noble Building which appeared in view belonged to Extravagance, one of the most renowned Lords in those parts; to whom himself had the honour to be chief Steward and Favourite: "I will introduce you to my Lord," said he, "who is never "so happy as when we can rescue any one from the power of that filthy Magician, Avarice." As he ended these words, they entered the House. Luxury then introduced her to two bloated

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bloated Females, with ruddy countenances, who occasionally affifted when Extravagance chose to entertain the Ladies of his family: They, with Luxury, accompanied the Princess through a grand faloon into an apartment, the furniture of which was beyond all description: Elegant sofas, fringed with costly Pearl; embroidered hangings, enriched with the finest Paintings, and most superb lustres, that cast a radiance round him. Here fat Extravagance, in his morning drefs; he was an elegant young Man, robed in a verd-coloured filk, embroidered with filver; and buttoned to the breaft by a knot of Diamonds: His hair fancifully braided, and fcented wih the richest perfumes. Luxury, his favourite, approached, and presented the Princess to him; informing him, that he had been fo happy as to affift her in escaping from the Castle will rough the influer you become uny of Avarice.

Extravagance received the Princess with great politeness; and affured her, nothing made him so happy as vexing that sordid Being, whose utter extirpation he had long aimed at; and, if Example could have any influence, he was determined to destroy the reputation of Avarice, with all hat knew him.

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Extravagance was fo struck with the beauty of the Princess, although she was dressed in a plain white Robe, that he thought she far eclipsed any beauty he had before seen: He

ofested with Extravariance, and his Favourite, Lexury, who

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felt an unufual pleafure in viewing her; and at last absolutely determined, in his own mind, to make her an offer of marriage: Accordingly, he began in the most infinuating manner to address her, in order to gain her affection, which was no very difficult talk, for the began already to be much captivated with his person and agreeable manner, so different from her old Lover, Avarice: But Orinda gave him to understand, that, as the was under the Guardianship of the good Benigna, the was not at liberty to encourage his addresses, till the had performed her appointed journey, and acquired the Magnet of true Generosity. Extravagance no sooner heard this, than he, with a fmiling countenance, faid, he was happy he could fave her the fatigue of fo tedious a journey, for that the Magnet was then actually in his possession, "which, said he, "I will refign the inftant you become my Bride."-Orinda, not in the least doubting what he faid, confented to remain his Guest a few days, till she could receive the approbation of Benigna. a yaqail ol anti abamugairism and benaris bar

The remainder of the day was spent in the highest strain of mirth and festivity, the Princess becoming more and more pleased with Extravagance, and his Favourite, Luxury, whose indefatigable attention prevented even her wishes, by procuring every thing in the greatest profusion: All went on very pleasantly till the evening, when, as they were sitting at a splendid

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splendid supper, the Princess beheld, to her utter amazement, the Faces of Luxury and her intended Bridegroom gradually transformed into those of Swine. The shock was so violent that she swooned: The two old Females, who never once suspected the cause of her disorder, (as they frequently, in the evening, were afflicted with a dimness in their sight, which rendered them perfectly insensible to the other's deformity) contrived to remove the Princess into a proper apartment; where, after laying her on a sofa to repose, they sunk into sleep themselves; leaving Extravagance and his companions to finish their nightly Revels.

But now, as I am apt to believe that the readers will be impatient to learn the cause of this strange transformation, I cannot proceed without acquainting them (perhaps to their surprise) that Avarice and Extravagance were Brothers, and Sons to an old Fairy called Excess. Avarice was from his birth much deformed; but Extravagance had always a pleasing form, till he got acquainted with Luxury, the offspring of a very disagreeable mixt family of the Centaurs and Gluttons: He inherited the disposition and manners of his family at times; so much of the Swine, that Extravagance, soon after his affociating with him, grew so very like Luxury, as even to astonish his Mother, the Fairy Excess: However, at the request of her Son, she endowed him and his Favourite with

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the power of transforming themselves to any appearance they pleased, to hide their Beastly visages, whilst the day lasted; but no sooner did the night commence, than their natural deformity returned; of which they themselves, at the time, were ignorant.

evening, were afficied with a chancle in their fight, which But to return to the Princess: She spent the night, when The recovered her fenses, in the greatest uneafiness; doubting whether she had now changed her fituation for the better: Yet the trembled at the thought of again falling into the hands of Avarice; for, notwithstanding that Extravagance and he were fworn enemies, and fincerely hated each other, there was one point in which they closely united; which was, that of intercepting the passage of those who were in search of the Magnet of true Generofity; knowing when That was discovered, and produced to the world, their Power of Enchantment would cease: For this grand reason, therefore, they joined interests; and planted themselves opposite each other, near the entrance of a Road that must unavoidably be paffed; and employed their utmost art to this one essential He inherited the dispersion and manners of point.

The Princess was convinced that the horrid transformation, which so much terrified her, must proceed from some evil Enchantment; she therefore determined, if possible, to make

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her escape: To this end, in the morning, she rose; but now perceived the countenances of her Lover, and his Favourite, the same as when she sirst entered the house: She would fain have persuaded herself that what she had the night before seen was but a Dream, occasioned by restless slumbers; but, when she considered every circumstance still strong on her memory, she was well assured of it's reality; and determined instantly to leave a place which, notwithanding all it's allurements, was replete with so much danger. She accordingly set out, and walked slowly forward, without the least observation; the house being in great consusion and bustle, preparing sumptuous banquets, &c.

The Princess soon arrived at the entrance of a pleasant little Wood; at the side of which, under the shade of a venerable Oak, sat a very amiable young Knight, bearing a Shield, which cast a mild, resplendent lustre round him; on it was engraved the Shield of Moderation. The Princess, encouraged by the Devise on his Shield, came up to him; and modestly enquired, if he could direct her to the Cave where the Magnet of true Generosity was to be found? The Stranger, after looking stedsastly at her, with assonishment and pleasure blended in his countenance, answered, that he would conduct her thither; and asked her whether she was in pursuit of that famous

in the Valkey.

famous Magnet? The Princess replied, she was: They then walked on, scarce ever speaking, till they arrived at the edge of a Precipice; when the Stranger addressed Orinda to this effect:

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"I am now, Madam, going to give into your possession the Magnet of true Generosity, which it would be impossible to attain without the Shield of Moderation, which you may perceive I wear: But I am losing time in words, that might be better spent in action:" Saying which, without waiting a reply, he descended the Precipice, leaving the Princess wrapt in astonishment at the top, to observe his atchievements in the Valley.

No fooner did he descend, than two enraged Lions rushed from a thicket, and sell upon him; but the Knight, covering himself with his Shield, at one blow laid them both senseles; and was passing on to take possession of the Magnet, when the Princess, to her inconceivable amazement, perceived the one which was White, rise and recover, in the form of her young Lover, Extravagance; and the other, a Black one, in that of her old one, Avarice. The Knight instantly turned; and, seizing Extravagance, by the wonderful power of the Shield, totally subdued him: But, in the mean while, Avarice raised

raised a black mist, in which he escaped; and the Princess for some time lost sight of her noble Champion; but the air clearing, she perceived him advance, bearing the Magnet of true Generosity on the Shield of Moderation; and, ascending the Precipice, presently laid it at her feet.

Orinda, overjoyed, expressed her gratitude in the warmest terms, declaring she could never recompence the service he had done her: "To render myself worthy of your esteem, "Madam," faid the Stranger, "amply overpays the Perils I have encountered; but you will be surprised, when I affirm, that the Missortunes of my whole life have arisen from too early an acquaintance with You:"The Princess, assonished at such a charge, affured him she should not be happy unless he would oblige her with an explanation; when the Knight began his narrative in the following manner:

The HISTORY of PRINCE MANFRED, Knight of the Shield of Moderation.

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assured with the self office of stones but the

"I AM Son," faid he, "to a neighbouring Monarch of great Power: My Father was of a noble and generous disposition; but my Mother was of so haughty and austere

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"a temper, that trifles would at times discompose her. It happened one day, when she was with child of me, that she was walking in her garden, attended by a select Company; when an old Woman, in a tattered garment, entered the gates; and, hastily advancing towards her, craved her Charity: My Mother, provoked at the ill-timed intrusion, ordered those in waiting to drive that insolent old Woman out of the Gardens, little imagining whom she had to deal with; for this old Woman was a Fairy, who, turning her eyes with indignation on my Mother, "Your Son," said she, "shall languish of a Wound received from a Shadow;" and immediately disappeared.

"This unfortunate circumstance threw the whole Company into confusion; and my Mother was sincerely vexed at her own imprudence, in treating the supplications of Distress with Contempt, though she could by no means comprehend the words which the old Fairy had uttered. I was born however; and, till I was eighteen years of age, lived free from any particular accident; in which time my Mother totally forgot the prediction that had formerly given her so much disquiet.

fixe arden from too early an acquaintance with Your

"One day, being weary with the fatigues of the Chace, I threw myself on a graffy bank, and fell into a profound fleep;

"fleep; during which time I dreamt that a beautiful young "Woman stood before me; and, taking me by the hand, bid me rife, and save her from destruction: Upon which I started up, and awoke. This dream made such an impression on my imagination, that my thoughts ran continually on it. I could never forget the charming sigure I had seen; which seemed to surpass every thing human, in loveliness of appearance: In a little time, I began to lose all relish for the diversions of the Court, my sole delight being in the contemplation of this extraordinary Vision: So that, by degrees, I fell into a deep melancholy.

"My Mother endeavoured, by every art, to discover the cause of my distemper; but I as carefully concealed it; being convinced it was beyond the power of any human affishance to afford me relief: Finding her efforts vain, and that my malady daily increased, she soon broke her heart with grief; and died, lamenting her harshness in offending the Fairy, by whose means she was certain this misfortune fell upon me.

"One day, as I was walking in the most gloomy part of a Forest, indulging my melancholy, which the death of my Mother had contributed to increase, I was met by an M aged

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" aged Fairy, who addressed me, near as I can remember, " to this effect: " I am the Fairy," faid she, " whom your " Mother was so indifereet as to irritate, and her useless " pride induced me to punish: She has paid dearly for her " unthinking Derifion of Poverty, and I am appealed: " Fly instantly to the Forest, on this fide of the Precipice, " which guards the Magnet of true Generofity; and take this " Shield," faid the, prefenting me this with which you fee me now armed, "it is the Shield of Moderation; which " will preserve you from the power of two evil En-" chanters, Avarice, and Extravagance; who would other-" wife obstruct your passage on that Road; and then " shall the evil wish, that in the bitterness of my wrath "I entailed on you, subside:" Saying this, she disappeared; " and I instantly fet out, and arrived at the Forest three days " ago, when the Fairy again spoke to me; bidding me re-" member, that only by the power of the Shield of Moder-45 ation could the Magnet of true Generofity be obtained: " After which, the again vanished; and I was prefently ac-" cofted by You, whom I inflantly discovered to be the " exact refemblance of that beautiful Figure I had feen in my " Dream.

One day, as i was wallang

" now

[&]quot;Thus, Madam," faid he, "I have related that strange accident which has imbittered a part of my last years: It

" now remains in your breaft, whether, by permitting me to " accompany you back to your Parents, and obtain their " confent to an union, you make me happy; or, by wyour refufal, doom me to mifery and wretchedness for phonomena, when whey diend on deep groung will revel

found to proceed from a Golden Rock; but they had factor

The Princefs, with a frankness which particularly marked her character, gave her hand to the Knight, telling him the must return to the Fairy Benigna, under whose protection her Royal Mother had placed her, and that he might accompany her thither. The Knight, greatly rejoiced at this permission, now thought all his cares at an end.

As they were travelling, the Princess, casting her eyes downward, perceived that she set her foot on a large piece of Gold Ore; which, with the affiftance of the Prince, the, with some difficulty, raised from the ground: But judge their amazement, when they discovered it led, by a slanting path underneath it, to an arch-way. Their curiofity induced them to defcend; and, having walked a few paces under-ground, by a glimmering light, they arrived at an Iron Door, over which was written, "The Golden Grove." This raised their curiofity still more, and induced them to open it; when they were struck with an entire Grove of Golden Trees; and,

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looking further, they perceived, interspersed, several statues of Gold.

" confeare to an union, were table med having out thy

Orinda and the Prince had not stood long to examine these phenomena, when they heard a deep groan, which they found to proceed from a Golden Rock; but they had scarce time for reflection, before the Princess heard the following words whispered in her ear, by a voice refembling that of Benigna.

- "The Charms of Avarice can't withstand,
- " The powerful Magnet in your hand."

The Princess did not entirely comprehend this sentence; but was determined she would try her Magnet: Accordingly she touched the Rock with it, which instantly opened, and discovered Matilda, her younger Sister, who set out in pursuit of the Wand of Contentment, and who instantly slew to her embraces.

"My dear Sister," said Orinda, "am I really awake, or is

unionated it, to so archervay. These cadoline induced their

- " this a dream? For heaven's fake, how come you in this dread-
- " ful fituation?" "Alas!" replied Matilda, " my misfortunes
- " are too numerous to relate in this place, where we are every
- " moment in danger, from an accurfed Magician who rules

" here:

here: Behold," faid she, pointing to the statues, "those Monuments of his art!" When Orinda understood this, she immediately, by the wonderful power of the Magnet, broke the Enchantment; and saw the Grove filled with Ladies and Gentlemen, who fell at her seet, returning thanks for this fortunate release.

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The Princess Orinda was no sooner acquainted that the underground paffage, she and the Prince had ventured, had led her again to the Castle of Avarice, than she informed them of her late escape; and, as she then hoped, to a much happier fituation; then acquainted them of the terrors she met with in the house of his Brother, Extravagance: At this they fighed; and told her their ideas of that Enchanter had fo affected their minds on a tour they were making, to observe the various manners of mankind, that, to avoid being captivated by his alluring invitations, should he meet them on the Road, had induced them to take a turn directly contrary, where they loft themselves; and wandering still more from a middle road, (which a part of their company afferted there was, and therefore left them) they travelled on a short time when they heard a loud talking of various voices; and, hoping from these to get direction to the better road, they followed the found till they heard one of them fay, with great vehemence, "I will ruin Extravagance." We then approached,

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and informed the person who was speaking, that we had wandered so far out of our way, as even to disregard many poor Travellers we met on the road, on pretence that we dare not stop so near Extravagance: On saying this, we received a general invitation to sleep in the Castle of Avarice, for such we found he was who spoke to us.

As we entered the place, nothing looked cheerful; he entertained us very frugally; and, lafter the repair, conversed with us on the powers of some pieces of rich Metals he drew from his purse; which, he said, by keeping them constantly in his pocket, drove from his door every distress; and observed so well on the rule of self-preservation, that we all gave a look of acquiescence; when he instantly waved a Wand he held, and transformed us into the Rocks and Statues your inestimable Magnet has relieved us from.

Orinda, convinced of the valuable properties of the Magnet, bid them fear nothing from the Enchanter's power, while they bore that in mind: She then entreated the Princess Matilda to lead her to the Magician, which she, not without some apprehensions, complied with; and conducted them to the apartments of Avarice, her old Lover. At first Orinda shuddered; but, remembering that the Magnet rendered her

vised by his allumer invitations, though he exect thom by the

far beyond his power, they proceeded to a barricaded Door, which instantly, at her touch, slew open. Here, attended by the Prince, Orinda entered, and discovered Avarice sitting in the midst of bags of Gold, attended by a dirty assembly of beings, habited like himself: He no sooner cast his eyes on the Magnet, than he appeared in the utmost consustion; and, well knowing that his power was at an end, let the Gold Wand drop from his hand, which was instantly taken up and broke in pieces by Orinda.

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Whilst Avarice, divested of his art, saved himself and his companions by slight from the dreaded touch of the Magnet, in the mean time the Princess Matilda was busily employed, at one corner of the room, searching a vast heap of Gold; and, at last, with great toil, drew from beneath it a delicate white Wand: No other than her long lost, and lamented Wand of Contentment, which Avarice had buried, and secured from the reach of all, under that immence heap of metal. She had scarce obtained possession of it, when the habitation began to tremble; and they were, in an instant, conveyed to a losty Mountain at some distance from whence they perceived the Castle of Avarice shivered to atoms.

After this Prince Manfred, with the two Princesses, continued their journey to the Fairy Benigna; while the Princess Matilda, on their way, related her adventures as follows:

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Overjoyed that formus had provided and a guide for agreed ables I readily refigued any felf to his projection; which done, I found my felf as the ride as the felt.

My Conductor they use water with a Wand he held in IZ hard who in Unit T a lift appared Va it C for the shore, in which having feated ourfelves, we pushed from the shore,

about of grant twining may care that again strings white the

and failed britkly till we came in view of a beautiful green Idand: As we drew nigh, the breezes that blew from it

wahed the most delight to core of E S S M A T I L D A.

On the banks, I deferred leveral parties of young Men and

Women, agreeably amufing themselves; some danging, others TT was not long after I had left our good friend Benigna, that I was accosted by a little Man about a span high: He had a countenance the most pleasant, and wore a green Mantle, covered with shells. "Well, pretty Lady," faid he, fmiling, " whither are you travelling this fine day?" I replied, "That I had undertaken a very long journey, in " hopes of obtaining one of the greatest treatures in the "What may that be?" answered the little Man; I told him, " the White Wand of Contentment." " You mif-"take," returned he, "the journey is not fo far as you "imagine; the Wand lies in the Island of Pleafure, but a " trifling distance from this place; if you are willing to be " guided by me, I will instantly conduct you thither." enide. Over-N

Overjoyed that Fortune had provided me a guide so agreeable, I readily refigned myself to his protection; which done, I found myself at the side of the sea.

My Conductor struck the water with a Wand he held in his hand, when immediately a Boat appeared on its surface; in which having seated ourselves, we pushed from the shore, and sailed briskly till we came in view of a beautiful green Island: As we drew nigh, the breezes that blew from it wasted the most delightful concert of music to our ears; and, on the banks, I descried several parties of young Men and Women, agreeably amusing themselves; some dancing, others singing, or angling in the water that surrounded the Island.

This gave such an unusual flow to my spirits, that I thought every minute an hour, till I could join this happy Society: At length, to my inexpressible joy, the Boat drew to shore; and my Conductor landed me on the Island where he had told me the Ward of Contentment was to be found.

" world." " What may that bo?" answered the hitle Man;

that I was accorded by a little Man about a foun high:

But what was my aftonishment, to observe the delights I had awaited, with so much eagerness, entirely vanished! The company, the music, the diversions, totally disappeared; nothing but a large tract of desert land now faluted my eye. I turned, in order to express my consternation, to my little guide,

Guide; but, alas! to my great mortification, he had likewise deserted me: Thus left, as I imagined, in an uninhabited Island, I was on the point of giving myself up to the first transports of grief; when my ear was again struck with the sounds of several musical instruments, blended with human voices, which, on looking, I discovered to proceed from an elegant Palace, in the midst of a wood. Delighted at this discovery, I set out, with a light heart, to gain admittance; but after deluding me sometime, now seeming near, and then at an immense distance, it wholly disappeared.

Shel then filed " my came ist Koffering " and ded bine

Stung to the foul with vexation, and almost famished with hunger and thirst, I wandered till, at a little distance, I perceived a company of Ladies and Gentlemen, sitting very joyous at a splendid repast.—I made all possible speed towards them, being determined that these, if possible, should not escape me; but alas! I had no sooner approached, as I thought, within reach, than these, like the rest, entirely vanished. Exhausted with disappointment, I cast myself on the ground, giving myself over for lost; when a sedate-looking Fairy stood before me, and, in a mild tone of voice, bid me rise: "You have done wrong, young Maiden," said she, "by trusting yourself to the conduct of a Stranger, that "professedly enchanted you into the pursuit of fantastic Plea-

Hope, the genius of the Island, which is called the Floating Island of Disappointment: He makes it his business to allure as many into his Boat, as will trust themselves to his guidance, which is too frequently the case of many unfortunate fufferers, who are overpowered by his specious presentences; but he has no sooner landed them, than he deserts them, leaving the unhappy Victims to wander in pursuit of the Shadows that inhabit the Island; till, worn with the delusion, they pine away and become Shadows themselves, and serve to delude others into the same situation." She then said, "my name is Reslexion," and, striking the with her Wand, I was instantly transported back to the place where I first became acquainted with the sittle Man.

Rejoiced, as you may imagine, to be once more in a land of Substantials, I continued my journey, unmolested, till the close of the evening, when I lost my way, as I was passing over a Chain of sandy Mountains, in which, unfortunately for me, were many Quick-sands; here, on a sudden, I selt something like a Trap catch hold of my seet, which rendered me incapable of moving, and I was obliged to content myself till morning. My mind was so sourced by this vexatious interruption, added to the severe disappointments I had met with in the Floating Mand, that I selt an accusing Thought rise in my breast (which with horror I

Hone,

colved, a company of Ladies and Centleman, fluing very

now repeat): "Surely," faid I to myfelf, "the Wand must be "in possession of some powerful person, whilst Benigna, su"premely happy in her Grotto, feels not the toils she has "fent me to encounter."

Thus I passed the night with murmur and disquiet; and it was scarce day light when I observed the Mountains covered by a company of Fairies, but to describe the horror of their appearance is impossible; believe me, therefore, when I affure you, that imagination cannot do juftice to their deformity. They advanced directly towards the place on which I stood, and one of them, which appeared to be their Chief, came to me, muttering fome words which I could not understand, and released me from my confinement; then, feizing me by the hand, led me, amidft the shouts and acclamations of her numerous companions, to a Den, in the most gloomy part of those dreadful Mountains; when immediately they crowded round a large Caldron, and fell to performing fome diabolical rites; which done, they produced a cup of the poisonous Mixture, and compelled me, half dead with afright, to drink, bidding me welcome to their Society llut ont out bey begund years " Envy, fifter Fairies, whose poilonous Mixmre converted you

But I had no sooner tasted, than I felt the Venom, quick as thought, circulate through every vein; and rushing from the

Den with agony, to the infinite diversion of the affembly, proceeded to allay the raging thirst and heat I felt in a fountain: But how shall I express my horror, when I perceived the reflection of myself in the water no longer Human, but an enormous Serpent: Words cannot paint what I felt at this moment; I was totally wild with grief, and, darting into a wood, stung every living creature in my way; and at last cast my Sting into the foot of a Person who sat reclined beneath a tree.

therefore, when I made your that imagination cannot do life.

The Person started, and I looked up; but superior misery crowded on me, when I perceived it to be our dear benefactress the Fairy Benigna. I stopped short, and, in an instant, from the utmost savageness, became fixed in a state of Aupifaction to the place; when Benigna, looking down with that sweetness natural to her, struck me with her Wand, when I instantly returned to my former shape. I threw myfelf at her feet in the greatest agitation, and attempted to embrace them; but the raifed me in her arms and tenderly carreffed me, faying, "The poignancy of your present feel-" ings appeales for t hole guilty Murmurings which have fo " lately plunged you into the full power of Ingratitude and " Envy, fister Fairies, whose poisonous Mixture converted you " into a Serpent: They are of the most ancient Race of wicked " Fairies, and, could they univerfally rule, would foon de-" ftroy noC

"froy the happiness of mortals; and such is their malig"nancy to me, that they set those Spells abroad, to render
"miscrable those who are in pursuit of the Wand of Content"ment; and so vigilant are they in placing those snares, that
"they too often prove fatal."

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Benigna again embracing me, took me by the hand, and conducted me till we came in view of the Plains, where the informed me the Wand was to be found; and then left me to continue my way. I presently arrived at those delightful plains, where, suffice it to say, every Charm I had imagined in my voyage to the Floating Island of Disappointment, was here surpassed in reality; and I received the Wand of Contentment from two beautiful Insants, one named Innocence, and the other Cheerfulness: From hence I turned, in order to pursue my way to the Grotto of our dear Benigna; but, towards evening, was overtaken by a violent storm, and again bewildered in a tract of Barren land.

In a little time I was accosted by a tall meagre Woman, with every wretchedness stamped on her countenance; and scarce covered from the inclemency of the weather, by an old ragged garment. With a civil demeanour, she invited me to shelter myself from the storm in her Hovel hard by. I did not by any means like its appearance, yet, perceiv-

company with Florida and

ward, and travelled the forencen without any adventure; but

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ing no other remedy, I followed her into the most milerable shed ever seen. I had not been long here, before I recollected the qualities of the Wand I had just acquired, which had the power of rendering the most disagreeable objects in nature agreeable.

Wand of Contentment. I am a trial of it, and accordingly waved it, when, in an inflant, the fhattered Hovel was converted to a neat little thatched Cottage, with a comfortable fire blazing on the hearth; the tractless Defert, to a small spot of cultivated land to surround it; and my hostess, whose name was Poverty, no more appeared wan and meagre, but plumped up to a smiling fresh-coloured Country Lats; and all this wonderful change was wrought by the powerful White Wand of Contentment. Send more absolute and radio add has a mid angular rash up to about add to way you so had

I passed the night here very comfortably; and, after taking a friendly leave of my Hostels in the morning, again set for ward, and travelled the forenoon without any adventure; but coming to a shady thicket, I laid me on a bank and sell asseep. How long I stept I am uncertain; but when I awoke I perceived Avarice, the Magician, standing by me, who had taken possession of my Wand. I entreated him to return it; but, instead of complying with my request, he ran with all his might, and descended the subterraneous passage, bidding me follow

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follow, which I did in hopes of regaining it. But we had no fooner entered the Golden Grove, than he struck me with his Wand, and I instantly became fixed to the place where you found me, in a Rock of Gold. There, doubtless, I must for ever have remained, had not the Magnet of Generality released me.

also the merits of the Knights who accompanied them broken

The young Princess similard her relation as they came to a pleasant little cottage; they were met at the entrance by a beautiful young Lady, who, with great tenderness, embraced the two Princesses; but they could not by any means recollect that they had ever, before that time, seen her; till, to their joy and amazement, she informed them that she was their Sister Bonnetta, whom the Mantle of Meekness had rendered so completely lovely.

Prince Offmandyas and Miranda; and Manfred and Orinda;

This little house belonged to an agreeable and hospitable old Man, named Peace, who kindly entertained them; after which they joined company with Bonnetta, who was likewise on her way; and, in a short time, arrived at the Grotto of Benigna, where their two sisters, Florissa and Miranda, with their Knights, had entered the minute before them: When the first transports at meeting were over, the Fairy, who knew by her art all that had happened, took the Princess Bonnetta by the hand, and introduced the strange Knight, in company with Florissa and Gentle Reproof, who was no

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other

other than her favourite Knight of the Silver Shield. He was ftruck with her beauty, which, he thought, eclipfed that of the whole affembly.

found one, in a stock of Gold. There, doubtlefa I min for

Benigna then ordered intelligence to the Royal Parents, of the return of the Princesses, and their several atchievements; also the merits of the Knights who accompanied them back to her Grotto, whose virtues rendered them worthy of an union with the Princesses they sought: Benigna, addressing herself to Gentle Reproof, "The Cestus," said she, "of which you are "in pursuit, is now in the possession of the Princess Florissa, "who, looking down, perceived her waist encircled by the Girdle, which transformed her from a Bear to a white Pigeon, which, Benigna informed her, was the Cestus of "Civility." She then united their hands; as also those of the Prince Osymandyas and Miranda; and Manfred and Orinda; whilst the Princess Bonnetta was employed in discovering to her Knight the share she had in his adventures; all which being adjusted, he related the latter part of them as follows:

the on her way and, in a finit time, arrived at the Oresto

who in the first mustpour at the char were over, the Pairy,

cers honneers by the hand, and introduced the firange Knyst,

in company with Bloriffa and Coutle Reproof, who was no

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Lenigna, where their two thers, Tioriff and Miranda,

cheir knight, had concret the minute nefore rising

" Not far from Bance," tall he, "I have wrothed a tomby

The Sequel of the ADVENTURES of the KNIGHT of the SILVER SHIELD. " lath request, and, as a recompensed travill give find were

"mmodiately when my breath is depend, the fire and

" AFTER I had departed from the Castle of Pride, I " continued my way, ruminating on the strange adventures " which had there befallen me; when prefently I found my-" felf benighted in the midst of a wide Forest. I wandered, " unknowing which path to take, till at a distance I per-" ceived the faint glimmer of a taper. I made what speed I " could towards it, and entered a Cavern, from whence I " found it proceeded; where, by the reflection of a lamp " that hung on the wall, I discovered an aged Hermit on the " point of expiring. He cast his eyes on me, and made " figns that I should approach him, when he addressed me in " these words: "Stranger," said he, " on what adventure " foever you are bent, it is Mercy which has doubtless fent] " you hither. I am Albubeca, the Hermit of the White " Rock, whose fame probably has reached your ear; I have " run my course, and my hour is at hand; listen, therefore, " attentively to these my last words: " nite to have it emombe

"Not far from hence," said he, "I have erected a tomb; "immediately when my breath is departed, deposit my body there, with this Rod (which he at the same time "put into my hands): As you shall prosper, sail not this my "last request; and, as a recompence, I will give into your "possession, one of the most valuable treasures. I affured "him I would execute what he defired, and vowed to keep "my promise inviolate: He then presented me with a Wand, "which he informed me would instantly possess me of every wish that tended to the advantage of myself or others; and then, without a groan, expired."

At this narrative, the face of the Princess Bonnetta was bedewed with tears, and the Knight ceased, whilst she paid this tribute to the memory of her kind protector, the Hermit of the White Rock. After which he continued,

"The Hermit was no fooner dead, than I proceeded to prove the power of the Wand he had put into my hands; and found it endowed as he had afferted. Charmed with my fuccess, I determined to make trial of the Rod like-wise; which, I was fully perfuaded, from his earnest defire to have it entombed with him, must inherit superior qualities. I accordingly waved it; and discovered that it had

" had an equal power of gratifying my wishes; but with this " difference, that as the Wand fulfilled the good only, so " the Rod solely possessed me of the evil.

"When I had obtained this information, I determined rather to break my faith with Albubeca, than to forego a treasure of such magnitude; which I considered, together with the Wand, would render my power unlimited. In the morning, therefore, I deposited the body of the Hermit; and set forward, without the least remorse, positive selfed not only of the Wand, but of the Rod also.

"Having travelled a confiderable distance, scarce meeting any one, about noon I was accosted by an old Pilgrim:

"He professed himself following the same tract; and, pleasifully for society, offered to accompany me. We journed together some time, when my companion growing weary, proposed that we should repose ourselves in a little thicker; and, in order to pass the time, relate to each other our adventure. To this I readily consented, and being seated being first, by recounting what happened to me in the Castle of Pride; not forgetting the circumstance of the Ring; which still remained on my singer; and concluding with

" my remarkable adventure in the Cave of the Hermit of the "White Rock.

"When I had ended, my companion entreated that I would fuffer him to examine the Ring I brought from the Giant's Castle. Suspecting no evil intention, I pulled it from my finger, and put it on that of the Pilgrim; but what was my surprise, when he refused to return it; remarking, that as he existed by appearances only, the Ring of Humility might be of much use to him: At first I imagined he jested; I struggled with him to regain my Ring, and, unfortunately, let the Wand fall from my hand, which he seized, and sled from me with incredible swiftness.

"I pursued in order to overtake him, but that being vain, "I grew frantic with rage, and suspended my Rod, when I "perceived a huge Monster rise from the earth, led by "the old Fairy Revenge, whose power would soon have deftroyed cities and villages without number; and it was with difficulty I saved myself from the dreadful Devourer, and "its companion, from whom I was at that time rescued: For "on a sudden the Monster disappeared, and a beautiful Wo"man stood before me, who told me that her name was "Justice. "You are justly punished," said she, taking the

"Rod from my hand, " you have grasped at power you " were incapable of commanding, and by that means have " loft the bleffing you might have possessed with honour and " fecurity: By exercifing the Rod, which by Revenge is en-" dowed, you have forfeited the Wand, put by Mercy into " the hand of Albubeca. "Ill," faid she, looking towards " heaven, " is the Rod of Retribution, fitted to the hand of a " mortal; it is a Scepter which unerring Justice alone should " wield." Saying this, the vanished in a radiant cloud; and " conveyed the fatal Rod for ever from my fight.

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" I strolled along reflecting on my folly, when perceiving " a Boat which belonged to fome Fishermen, I entered, " with an intent to abandon a land, the fight of which filled " my foul with remorfe; but had not failed far, before I was " cast upon a rock, where an old Fairy appeared; and the "horror of her figure made fuch an impression on my ima-" gination, that I think I shall never forget: When she " told me, though I might not recollect, that her name was "Revenge; and affured me, that if I would fubmit myfelf " to her government, notwithstanding Justice had deprived " me of the Rod, she would bestow on me equal Power " with herfelf; a power so malignant my foul then abhorred; " but she prevailed by her art so far, as to drag me to an being by

" enchanted torrent, in which the plunged me: I have fince " heard it is the Torrent of Fury; I was carried, by the force of the current, a confiderable way from the abode of " Revenge, when a late bosom friend, Gentle Reproof, who " was riding for the air at some distance saw me struggling in the current; and, anxious to preferve me from danger, " held out his hand to affift me; but my brain being fo es greatly inflamed by only tafting the waters of Fury, that I " dared him to a combat; and most probably should have " furnished myseif with a load of guilt and misery for ever, " by destroying him, had not the amiable Princess Florissa "interposed, and, by the valuable liquor of Good-nature, " restored the use of my senses:" Here the Prince ceased, and Florissa was just going to express her thanks to Benigna, for the valuable bleffing the had endowed her with, when a meffenger arrived from the King, her Father, to inform the Princesses that his subjects, wearied with the sanguine cruelties of the conquering Prince, had most affectionately petitioned his return to the government of his kingdom; and that he fully approved of the princely Knights they had chofe. " to her government, nonvishing ling futice had deprived

After this happy news, Benigna, looking with a fmile of affection and pleasure on the company, and waving her Wand, they were instantly transported to a temple that totally eclipsed

eclipsed every thing the Princesses had before seen in their travels; over the entrance was written, in golden letters, on a white scroll, "The Temple of Virtue."

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"You are now my children," faid Benigna, "going to re-" ceive the reward due to your toils and virtue;" but she had scarce time to pronounce these words, before a beautiful Figure descended, whom the Princess Bonnetta and the Knight of the Silver Shield knew to be Justice: She was encircled with a radiance that illumined the whole Temple; and, having advanced to Benigna, thus addressed her, "You are on the " point," faid she, " of rewarding Virtue; but shall Vice, " therefore, remain unpunished? No; Heaven will not per-" mit it; the arrow of Vengeance is only flow; but to ren-" der the stroke more sure, once more," said she, " have I " rescued the Rod of Retribution from the power of Re-" venge;" " take it," continued she, to Benigna, "thou " alone art worthy to hold it; I have endowed it with an at-" tractive power no evil can withstand; all will impulsively " obey its fummons, and attend at this tribunal, to give ac-" count of their good or evil Deeds: Let them then be tried " by the never-erring touch of the Spear of Truth; and "doomed to undergo that punishment the nature of their

After

After this she disappeared, and returned to her eternal abode, the Celestial Island: She was no sooner gone than Benigna waved her Wand, and the good King and Queen appeared; whose happiness it is impossible to describe, when they first beheld their long-absent children; and after most affectionately embracing each other, the guardian Fairy summoned the respective Parents of the princely Knights, that they might all partake of the pleasure of seeing their children receive the reward acquired by their virtues; who all arranged themselves in order.

When Benigna, feating herfelf on a throne of ivory, fummoned the Princess Clementina, who was in possession of the Spear of Truth; and seating her on her right hand, waved the Rod of Retribution. The Temple was presently filled with all ranks and degrees of Fairies, good and evil; for the good were likewise drawn hither to see the evil punished.

ed to sit nove

Benigna then proceeded to give hearing to the feveral. Causes now before her. The first that appeared was a most hideous phantom, which struck terror through the whole Assembly, whom the Princess Clementina recollected to be no other than the spectre, Evil Conscience, her constant tormentor in the Castle of Falsehood: He advanced, leading an

old Female, equally deformed with himfelf, whom the Princess Florissa remembered to be Ill Fame, who transformed her to a black Bear. " Most high and mighty," faid he, addressing Benigna, "we are fummoned before thy dreadful tribunal, " by the irrefiftible power of the Rod of Retribution, to re-" ceive fentence for ill deeds: It is true we owe our original " to fin; yet, would you liften attentively to our history, you " would find that we have at least not been detrimental to " the cause of Virtue." This speech raised the curiosity of the whole affembly; and with the permission of Benigna he related his history as follows: " and out out out of old "

stated it with many attentice devices; to away the

formeller: Our Modier is by mante outs, I must errore

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Sin lived many years transminded to habitation, which

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The HISTORY of Evil Conscience and Ill FAME.

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e ceive fentence for ill deeds; It is true we own our original

Felt Morida remarkated to be 10 Panie, who to adorned he

"YOU must understand, Madam," said the Spectre,
that Female (pointing to Ill Fame) and myself, are Brown ther and Sister, the offspring of an Enchantress, named
Sin, who has, for many ages, resided in a deep gloomy
Vale, where she has erected a large Mansson, and decorated it with many alluring devices, to attract the unwary
Traveller: Our Mother is by nature ugly, I must confess;
and, did she not by her Magic assume a false appearance,
every one would fly with horror and disgust from her; but
fuch is her power, that she generally contrives to cast a
mask over her outward form, by which means she frequently captivates the senses of those who submit themselves to her dominion.

"Sin lived many years triumphant in her habitation, which was continually filling with company, and herfelf fecure, as she thought, from controul; till, unfortunately, she got acquainted with Shame, who, after much importunity, at length persuaded her to marry him. From that time my

"Mother perceived her empire gradually decreased; and that company did not flock quite so much to her habitation as before; for my Father had something so forbidding in his countenance and manners, as by no means to ingratiate himself with the guests of my Mother.

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"However, all went on amicably till the year after, when my Mother was delivered of twins;—Myself, whom she called Evil Conscience,—and my Sister, who was named Ill Fame: But instead of this event producing joy, it was quite otherwise, for we were both so extremely deformed, as to terrify even our natural Parents. My Mother endeavoured, by her great skill in magic, to conceal our deformity; but, alas! to no purpose, for we every day discovered it more and more; and became withal so spiteful, that many were fearful of approaching us, even when mere infants.

"My Sister, indeed, was much bolder, and possessed more strength of body than myself; and would openly sty in the faces of our guests, and dissigure them in a most horrible manner with her nails; but though I did not proceed to such open violence, I was not less spiteful: It was my constant delight and employment to steal, unper"ceived, behind the chairs of our guests, and divert myself by

" thinks arosov uses the most adocus form -Bears,

"by running thorns into their fides, then, burfting into a fit of laughter at the agonies I had occasioned. In this manner as we grew in years we continued to grow in cruelties; and, by degrees, drove many, who had not been long used to our tyranny, from the place of our abode, to the great diffatisfaction of my Mother, whose study it was to increase her acquaintance as much as possible. But though this sport gave offence to her, it was matter of high entertainment to two Hags, who were constant visitors at our Mansion, viz. Envy, and her bosom friend the Black Fairy Malice: They were both extravagantly fond of my Sister Ill Fame; and now that she was grown to maturity, determined to endow her with a gift by which she might give full scope to the natural rancour of her disposition, which it was their business always to encourage.

"This was the power of transforming whatever she should think proper into the most hideous form,—Bears, Wolves, Tygers, &c. nor did she fail to make such constant use of the gift, that in a little time our Mansion was so thinned of its guests, that my Mother, finding no remonstrances would prevail, at length, quite enraged, turned us both out of doors: We were now lest to provide for ourselves; and were ascending the summit of the vale where my Mother's abode stood, when we were stopped by Justice, who, well knowing

nearly ward fearful of approaching and even when

knowing the miseries we should occasion, were we left unrestrained to torment the world at large, compelled us to
practise our diabolical arts on the wicked alone; ever remaining the constant attendants on ill deeds: She then disappeared, after allowing me the power of assuming any
shape I pleased, to chastise Vice. Numberless adventures
have I met with, too tedious to relate; ever chastising
in the form of the injured party.

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"I remember I once got into the house of the Magician Avarice, whom I tormented in various forms; sometimes by placing the shades of injured widows and orphans before his eyes, with distressed relations, and other worthy objects of charity: Frequently he shut himself up, and endeavoured to barricade me out with bars of iron, but to no purpose; I was his constant tormentor, till the Magnet of
true Generosity was found, which entirely destroyed him and his Brother Extravagance, who was likewise frequently under my chastisement. In short, there is not any of the vicious train with whom I have not been intimately acquainted,—Pride, Malice, Envy, and Ingratitude; and others too numerous to relate, and whom, though reluctantly, as they being such very old and constant companions, yet am I now ready to accuse, as sworn enemies

Louis and the state of to

" to the cause of Virtue. My last residence was with False-

" hood, where I continued till drawn with my Sister hither

" by the Rod of Justice. Thus you see, Madam, though the

" offspring of Sin, Heaven has ordained us the scourge of our

a flage I pleafed, to chartake Vion Numberlelle adventures

" Parents, with whom alone our being can end."

Here the Spectre finished; and Benigna commanded Ill Fame to relate her adventures; but she excused herself, saying, that they bore fuch a fimilarity to those of her Brother, that it would be only repetition: She owned, however, that the was not always confined to attend on ill deeds alone, as her Friends Envy and Malice could fometimes, by their magic, counteract the decree of Justice, by which means the was frequently left at liberty to exercise her an on the innocent for a certain time; but that Justice never failed in the end to overrule the magic of Envy and Malice. She ended with affuring Benigna, that although she fometimes chaftifed the innocent in lieu of the guilty, yet the had certainly been more inftrumental in suppressing Vice, than her Brother; as her art stamped deformity on the outward form; to the truth of which the Princess Floriffa could witness, and by which the world was made acquainted with the nature of their crimes; while Evil Conscience seldom made use of his art but to chastise in private, which was not near fo effectual.

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Here the Spectre, with great vehemence, interrupted her: "You are wrong, Madam, you are wrong," faid he, "So-" litude adds double stings to the torment I inflict; the pre-" ference must therefore certainly be given to me: Besides, " am I not your Brother? how then dare you pretend to fu-" periority!" "You are an impertinent blockhead," replied " Ill Fame, with a shrill voice, " and if you utter another " fyllable, I will give you a convincing and fevere proof of " the fuperiority of my power." Evil Conscience was going to reply, not in the most gentle strain, and a violent fray would certainly have enfued, had not Benigna commanded decency and filence; and after touching them with the Spear of Truth, to prove their affertions just, fet them on one fide, and ordered Treachery to appear for chastisementthe old Man, whose seducing softness of address enticed the Princess Bonnetta into his Dungeon.

He came forward with a crafty and affected smile of complacency on the whole assembly; but, casting his eyes around, he observed an attendant in Benigna's train that struck him with consternation and terror; this was the NOBLE FAIRY SINCERITY, whose province he had often attempted to invade. She was dressed in an azure robe, and her shoulders covered with a mantle of bright Aurora: She no sooner gave a look towards Treachery, than he turned to the Black O

Fairies with an abject supplicating gesture, as if hoping, by their assistance, to be protected from that dreaded annihilation his guilty mind foreboded; but even Malice and Envy inclined their faces from him, and the whole of good Benigna's companions viewed him with abhorrence.

The NOBLE FAIRY smiling on them with a serene and stedsast dignity in her countenance, approached towards him, when, trembling with fear, he fell at her seet, and Sincerity instantly placing her foot on his neck, he totally disappeared. Benigna's face shone with a peculiar brightness on this occasion, and gave Sincerity a salute of congratulation; in which she was most reciprocally joined by all the good beings present, while the Princess Bonnetta, seizing her hand with the cordiality of a bosom friend, entreated that Sincerity would never leave her.

The next was a beautiful Lady, with a young damfel bearing her train,—no other than Falsehood, and her handmaid Flattery: They were asked by the Fairy what they had to offer in their defence: Falsehood, in a very florid speech, declared, she was summoned wrongfully to the bar; that she was a person of large fortune, who kept open house to all Travellers, and could recollect no crime in the world

world the had ever been guilty of; then concluded; entreating Benigna to release her and her damsel. " Ay " do, dear Lady," faid Flattery, " it is beneath you, whose " name is blazed fo far abroad for virtue, beauty, mercy " justice-: "She was going on with these infinuating compliments, when Benigna interrupted her; "Your very speech, " young Woman," faid the fmiling, " betrays you to be " Flattery, who has deluded fo many into the Mansion of " your mistress Falsehood; however, every one here will be " tried by the Spear of Truth; if you are able to stand its " touch, you will instantly be released; if not, you must " abide the punishment I shall think proper to inflict."

She then commanded Clementina to Arike Falsehood with the Spear, when, aftonishing to behold, her beauty, which was but a mask put on to hide her deformity, disappeared; her beautiful jetty ringlets were converted to horrid fnakes; her complexion grew wrinkled; her body deformed; and her eyes, before foft and languishing, were starting like two fiery meteors from their fockets with fury; while shame and confusion darkened her countenance.

Hypocrify was now called,-the old Hermit who fo artfully deluded the Princess Clementina to the Mansion of

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False-

Falsehood: The Knight of the Silver Shield immediately knew him to be the treacherous Pilgrim who defrauded him of the Ring of Humility, and the Wand given him by Albubeca. He, with many specious pretences, endeavoured to elude the much-dreaded Spear; "Alas!" said he, "why "would you draw me from my peaceful hermitage; I have never been conversant in scenes of busy life; why then cannot I glide in peace to my native dust? No crime has "stained my guiltless years." "It is false," said Evil Confcience, stepping forward, "and the Spear of Truth will prove it."

Clementina then touched him; when the Wand and the Ring, which still remained in his possession, dropped instantly from his hand; and he fell grovelling down to an enormous Crocodile. Clementina was so terrified, that she would have sled, but Benigna prevented her, and thus addressed the Knight of the Silver Shield; "This Wand, said she, "which by your imprudence fell into the possession of Hypocrisy, is mine: It was, at my desire, put by Mercy into the hand of the good Albubeca, as a check to the power of Revenge; had you kept your faith, and enclosed her fatal Rod in the Hermit's tomb, you would have escaped those evils which almost proved your destruction; "but

"but as it is, let the past ever remain a warning to the su"ture" "You see," said she, turning towards the assembly,
"that Hypocrisy and Falsehood can by their art gloss over and
hide the greatest deformity, so as to allure the most experienced; but when once the Spear of Truth has discovered their
wickedness, sno other persuasions are requisite to induce
every one to sty the paths that lead to their habitations."
She then returned the Ring of Humility again to the Knight,
and was filent.

" If force the character of the only one for heaping were

The next that appeared was a beautiful Fairy, whom the little Dwarf Diligence, still in company with the Prince Ofymandyas and Miranda, knew to be his old Friend the Fairy Perseverance. She advanced, leading the Giant Impatience, and the wicked Fairy Delay, both bound in chains: "Behold, "my Sister," said she to Benigna, "Impatience and Delay—"their power is now totally at an end; and they only wait to undergo that punishment you shall think due to their crimes." Benigna demanded what they could say in vindication of their actions. Delay, yawning and hesitating for some minutes, desired to have time given her, declaring she was unprepared, and begged at least to have a few weeks allowed for recollection; but the Fairy only granted one hour, while she examined the rest.

Impatience was quite opposite, entreating that his fate might be instantly fixed, as he mortally hated suspence:

equal Hypocriff and Halfshood one by their art girls over med

Ingratitude, Envy, with Revenge and Malice, the Black Fairies, next appeared; who, notwithstanding their efforts to the contrary, were drawn hither by the Rod of Justice; but, instead of palliating their crimes, they approached venting the most bitter curses on the whole affembly, and endeavouring, by diabolical arts, to work them mischief; but Virtue now triumphed over Vice: The Spear of Truth touched these; but their outward deformity was so great, that it was impossible for it to be heightened.

The Giant Pride, with his beautiful wife Vanity, next approached: He was habited in a costly manner, and walked up the Hall full of his own importance, not deigning to speak to, or answer any one. The Spear of Truth had no sooner touched him, than his gaudy trappings vanished, and discovered his presuming, odious deformity, heightened by the mild lustre that beamed through the Temple of Virtue.

But Vanity, encouraged by False Hope, who among the rest was arrived, buoyed herself with the idea of gaining, by her beauty and address, the whole company to her interest;

and even Benigna herself: She, therefore, with great composure, drew nigh the throne; and turning to the affembly, "Gentlemen and Ladies," faid she, "you view me at pre-" fent a poor, helpless, distressed Woman, destitute of friends " or protection, but those your bounty bestows; look well on " me, behold youth, beauty, and wit, plead powerful for " me; look on me, and then fay, does this abject state fuit " my person, rank, and accomplishments? granting I have been imprudent, view the cause from whence it proceeded; " behold Pride, my hufband, what Woman dares difobey?" The whole affembly smiled at the infinuating address of Vanity, and could not help looking on her with a kind of partiality, which Benigna perceiving, "Your fophiftry," faid fhe, " however it may impose on weak minds, is not able to over-" come Truth and Reafon;" "No," continued she, " the ig-" noble paffions of Pride are the flaves to Vanity; nor would " either exist but by the affistance of the other."

The little Man called False Hope came last, who allured the Princess Matilda to the shews of pleasure in the Floating Island of Disappointment. He made many specious presences to vindicate his conduct, but in vain; and Benigna passed sentence on the several culprits as sollows:

entry thole fenfes the rendered to dangerous and nostour

She sentenced Impatience and Delay, well knowing the inveterate hatred they bore each other, to be bound closely together, till Impatience had quickened Delay, and Delay moderated Impatience;—these were delivered to the care of the Hermit Repentance.

"It is necessary," said she to Pride and Vanity, "that "you should be parted, since each feeds the sollies of the "other;" "Pride," said she, "shall be humbled accordingly:" She set marks in his forehead to this effect,—Behold the slave to Vanity. She then commanded Vanity to cast a chain round his neck, and lead him throughout the assembly, in token of his abject state.

Envy was presented with a looking-glass, which she was ever obliged to hold before her eyes; it reslected all the riches, honour, prosperity, and virtue of this world: "Thou "wretch," said Benigna, as she gave it, "who lookest with a malignant eye on the happiness of thy fellow creatures, continue to draw venom to thine own heart from the picture of that peace thou canst never enjoy."

Malice became deaf and dumb, that she might no longer enjoy those senses she rendered so dangerous and noxious to fociety: She was then, with Ingratitude, Envy, False-hood, Pride, and Hypocrify, sentenced to the Den of Despair, to be eternally guarded by Ill Fame and Evil Conficience.

the it must have been conditioned nearly on the fame prin-

Luxury, who in general was treated with contempt after the destruction of Extravagance, was ordained to spend his days among swine, as best suited to his nature and disposition.

Few now remained to be disposed of, but they required some confideration; amongst these were Flattery, Vanity, and False Hope: Their crimes did not feem of that magnitude to merit the Den of Despair; and they were too dangerous to be set at large amongst mortals. The Fairy, therefore, after a short pause, waving her Wand, a number of little Sylphs appeared fluttering round her, who presently, at her command, formed a machine of fuch a delicate texture, that it would float with the greatest ease on the clouds, and at the same time buoy up a confiderable weight: But the aftonishment of the affembly is not to be conceived, when they perceived Benigna, by the help of their wonderful contrivance, launch Flattery, Vanity, and False Hope into the air, to be for ever the sport of that of Victor has inguisered capricious element. their Dangbier Miranda and Prince Ofyngrad van

I have endeavoured, with the utmost diligence, to discover the name given to that furprising machine; but have hitherto proved unfuccefsful in my refearches. Authors give various accounts; but for my own part, I am confidently of opinion. that it must have been constructed nearly on the same principles as the famous Air Balloons, which have afforded matter for such yast astonishment in these latter ages, noishurs of

days among fwine, as belt faited to his nature and difpo-Thus Virtue triumphed, and Vice was punished.

The nuptials of the Princesses were now celebrated with the greatest magnificence, all the good Fairies affishing at the ceremonies: Several days were spent in rejoicing, during which time the most elegant entertainments and diversions were displayed, to solace the guests of the Temple of Virtue; after which the Princesses, endowed with the benefit of Benigna's good council, retired with their princely Knights to their respective governments. And solidate a don't to suitoure a

But the good King and Queen, preferring retirement to the fatigue of government, and delighted with the ferenity they felt in Benigna's company, determined to spend their days in peace with their Daughters Clementina and Matilda, in the Temple of Virtue; having deputed the scepter of Babylon to their Daughter Miranda and Prince Ofymandyas, who recomovad I

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mended the little Dwarf Diligence to the notice of their people; and by his exertions, under the power of the Diftaff of Industry, they soon repaired the damages of war; and the blessings promised them by Benigna slourished under their protection.

The King and Queen lived to a great length of days, fupremely happy in feeing their children the glory and admiration of their subjects, in the several kingdoms over which they reigned.

Lucy peacock

nended the linde Dwarf Diligence to the notice of their seples, and by his enertions, under the power of the Dilass of half by they from repaired the damages of war; and the stiffings promited them by Penigna flourished antier their researchion.

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